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# HOME OF THE HIGHLAND STORM The Highlander

Thursday **December 24 2015** | Issue 217

**INSIDE: MINDEN COUPLE CONVICTED OF ANIMAL CRUELTY - SEE PAGE 3 FREE**



Photo by Jennifer Hughey

**CHRISTMAS COMES TO ASES:** It was a festive morning Dec. 18 in the gymnasium at Archie Stouffer Elementary School, as kids sang Christmas carols to family and friends. From left to right: Hunter Hamilton, Holling Stong, Vanek Logan, Cruize Neave, Matthew Fairey, Mackenzie Milburn and Kaydence Hollands from Mrs. Howard's kindergarten class. See inside for more photos, page 35.

## Students ask drivers to stay safe

By **Sue Tiffin**  
Staff writer

Shoppers buying bottles at area liquor stores this season could leave with an important message.

Students at Archie Stouffer Elementary School, JD Hodgson Elementary School and Wilberforce Elementary School decorated bags with pictures and notes reminding social drinkers to avoid drinking and driving

over the holiday season. The bags are then distributed with bottle purchases by local LCBO staff.

"If they write it, they learn it," said Robert Tucker, manager of the LCBO in Minden.

Messages on the bag remind LCBO patrons, "all it takes is one drink to mess up your driving" and "[family] will be waiting for you at home if you get home safe."

Tucker said the program elicits only

positive feedback and supports the LCBO's mission statement which promotes social responsibility.

Community safety officer Dianna Dauphinee said the decorated bag program has been a joint venture between the Haliburton Highlands OPP, the City of Kawartha Lakes OPP, City of Kawartha Police Service, the local school boards and the LCBO for several years. Students in grades 4 through

8 participate and the Kawartha-Haliburton Crime Stoppers sponsor a contest awarding best decorated bags.

"The goals of this project are to create awareness around the consequences about drinking and driving or riding with someone who is impaired and to give students the opportunity to raise community awareness about the issue of drinking and driving from

See "Students" on page 2

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# Highlander news

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## Students' messages resonating with consumers

Continued from page 1

their point of view," said Dauphinee.

Dauphinee said the program has an impact on shoppers.

"[A fellow officer in Kawartha Lakes] said she has heard of people receiving the bags and feeling guilty about recycling them, so they put them on the fridge as a reminder for the entire holiday season."

Local LCBOs are also hanging the bags around stores to generate more awareness of the program and the anti-drunk driving message.

"I am truly impressed by the artwork and effort put into it from the students," said Dauphinee. "You can tell the kids like participating in the program just by the artwork and messaging they come up with."



Photo by Sue Tiffin

Students around the county designed paper bags with anti-drunk driving messages to remind festive drinkers of social responsibility.

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# Highlander news

## Minden couple convicted of animal cruelty

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

A Minden couple has been convicted of two counts of animal cruelty.

Responding to a call from a concerned citizen, an Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) agent attended the home of Shawn Guild and Jessica Dawn Mann Dec. 31, 2013. The pair surrendered their dog, which was found to be emaciated.

On Nov. 10 this year, they were convicted of permitting an animal to be in distress, and failing to comply with prescribed standards of care — failing to provide adequate food and water.

"We are receiving a lot of hate due to being charged but not many people know the story," said Guild.

He said the dog, Mercedes, was in poor condition when he and Mann adopted her in February 2013.

"The dog had health issues and other physical issues from the prior owner but our goal was to nurse it into better health," he said. "It had open wounds, was very skinny and needed help."

On Feb. 26, he said he posted a photo of the dog to his Facebook account and wrote, "Took in a beautiful dog today. She's malnourished [sic] and needs extra love but she is amazing. We are going to bring her health back up to 100%."

Guild said he and Mann took the dog to the Minden Animal Hospital (MAH) several times, spending around \$1,000 on vet bills. He said they also bought specialized food and medication from the vet for the dog's health issues.

Dr. Carol Sanio, a former vet at the MAH, said she remembers Mann and the dog.

"I do remember that money was an issue ... so doing a work up to diagnose a problem was too expensive," said Sanio. "The dog was very sweet and I thought [the owner] seemed to be concerned about the dog, just fresh out of funds."

"Our financial situation changed during the end of the year and we were no longer able to provide the high cost for care that this dog needed," said Guild. He said the pair willingly surrendered the dog to the attending OSPCA officer, "as her health had gone down and we didn't have the resources to continue to help her."



Photos submitted by the OSPCA

A dog surrendered to the OSPCA in Dec. 2013 was emaciated, with open wounds and stained fur. After a month of veterinary care, the dog gained nearly 15 pounds.

After an immediate assessment by a veterinarian in Huntsville, the dog was reported to have open wounds, stained fur, hair loss, ulcerated wounds on the ears and fleas.

"The Boxer-type dog weighed 30 pounds and scored a body condition of one out of five (where three is ideal)," said a press release from the OSPCA.

Allison Cross, director of marketing and communications for the OSPCA, said the typical weight for a dog of that breed and age would be 55-60 pounds.

"Although the owners had many opportunities to ask for our assistance, we never received a request," she said, noting the OSPCA has up to six months to lay charges once an investigation has started.

"Due to the dog's condition, much of which was there from when we received her, we were taken to court," said Guild. "We tried to defend ourselves in court but unfortunately we were convicted."

Guild and Mann hired a paralegal for an undisclosed amount, which he said they paid for without support or assistance.

According to the OSPCA press release about the conviction, Guild and Mann are prohibited from owning, having custody or care of, or living with any animal other than their cat for a period of five years.

Regarding the stipulation to allow the pair

to keep their cat despite the conviction, Cross said, "This is a decision made by a judge. [The OSPCA does] not have jurisdiction over this decision."

Guild and Mann are required to advise the OSPCA if they move, and the SPCA has the right to inspect their property for compliance. They were ordered to pay restitution of \$250 each, as well as a fine of \$400 each, to be paid within six months of the date of the order. Neither Guild nor Mann has been charged under the OSPCA act previous to this.

"Our investigation revealed that this was an act of animal cruelty," said Cross. "Charges were laid and a court has convicted these two individuals of animal cruelty."

Within a month under care of the OSPCA, the dog had gained nearly 15 pounds and her wounds had healed.

Mercedes was then sent to a boxer rescue organization and Cross said she "has since been adopted out to a loving family."

"There is no excuse to let an animal go without proper veterinary medical attention," said Alison Green, regional inspector for the OSPCA in a press release. "If you are unable to care for your animal, contact your OSPCA Community Society to discuss what options are available."

Visit [ontariospca.ca](http://ontariospca.ca) for further information. To report animal cruelty, call 310-SPCA.

## Side-by-side spontaneously combusts

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

Lou and Marianne Fenninger got more than they bargained for when a friend paid them a visit on his side-by-side ATV Dec. 19.

"I saw something flashing," recalled Marianne, who was in her home when she first saw flames.

"The whole thing was billowing so much so that everyone from the ski hill [Sir Sam's] came running over with extinguishers."

She tried phoning 911, but it wasn't until her third attempt she got through.

Just minutes earlier, a friend of the

Fenningers, Sam Strauss, came over for a visit on his Polaris Ranger ATV.

"It wasn't running and it spontaneously caught on fire," said Strauss, who owns a cottage nearby.

Several Dysart firefighters responded to the couple's home on Liswood Road. They made sure everyone was out of harm's way, as the fully engulfed vehicle was only a few feet away from the building, and extinguished the blaze.

"If we would have had the winds blowing the right way, it would have caught the house," said Peter McTeague, one of 15 volunteer firefighters who showed up.

The exterior of the home sustained minor

damage, including some broken windows and singed wood.

Strauss said the ATV was only three or four years old. He speculated a creature could be responsible.

"I think it's just an animal that ate through the gas lines or electrical lines," he said.

According to a press release from Dysart fire Chief Miles Maughan, an electrical short caused the fire. The estimated damages are \$14,000 for the ATV and \$8,000 for the house.

Strauss planned on calling his insurance company to remove the ATV from the property.

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# Editorial opinion

## Christmas cheer brought to you by The Force

The intense cultural phenomenon known as *Star Wars* is taking the world by storm. All manner of clothing, toys, lunch boxes, even oranges (seriously) have donned the *Star Wars* brand. This ferocious merchandising push from Disney, which owns all things *Star Wars*, isn't surprising. It's actually brilliant business. However, for many people who care little about a galaxy far, far away, the entire marketing circus is understandably off-putting. It also prevents them from understanding why the epic space opera resonates with so many people today, even decades after the release of the original series.

During our office Christmas party, it was brought to my attention one of the families in attendance was planning to marathon through the *Star Wars* series. I spoke with one of the parents, who was excited about showing her children the series in its entirety for the first time. Similar instances of this can be seen across social media, where parents have documented themselves sitting down with their young ones to watch *A New Hope*, the first *Star Wars* movie released in 1977. The excitement on the parents' faces is equalled by the marvel in their children's eyes and I couldn't help but smile from ear to ear as I watched a video of a father and son gushing over the onscreen magic.

All of this reminded me of my first time watching *Star Wars*. My parents had grown up with the movies and when it was my turn to soak in the adventures of Luke, Leia and Han Solo, I was instantly hooked. After that, we would watch the trilogy every couple of months, including the Christmas holidays. I couldn't get enough of the heart-pounding moments on the Death Star and the brilliant score by John Williams, which to this day, still gives me goose bumps.

Movies can have a massive impact on people, but it's rare to see a saga resonate

with young and old crowds alike. *Star Wars*' main themes of hope, courage and discovery are a perfect mix anyone can fall in love with. It's easy to see why parents are so excited to pass on those movie experiences to their children, especially when original ideas on the big-screen nowadays are essentially non-existent. Nearly every movie which comes out now is a remake or is based off a book or is a combination of the two. Now, that's not to say that *Star Wars* wasn't devoid of inspiration. It's no secret it was inspired by various stories and science fiction which came before it, but it's how those ingredients came together to create something wondrous and long-lasting that makes it worth getting excited about decades later.

There are other incredible ways to connect as a family and in a world where digital media is continuously confining children to the couch, it's becoming increasingly important to form cherished memories outdoors in a beautiful landscape such as the Highlands. But it's the holidays, and vegetating on the couch is a must at one point or another. So, when you do decide to snuggle up on the couch with your kids this holiday, there's probably no better way to do that than while watching *Star Wars*. It's in your best interest to sidestep the overwhelming merchandising of it all and simply enjoy a movie trilogy about a group of people who come together to overcome a great obstacle through dedication, courage and laughter. Anyone at any age can get on board with that.

Oh, and avoid the prequels. They're full of plot holes, stereotypes and confusion. They will force your kids to ask questions every five seconds. If they don't, I guarantee they will instead gravitate to a fluffy white object known as a pillow and fall asleep.



By Alex Coop

## Tis' the season

I was in Peterborough the other day Christmas shopping (for the record – I got what I could find locally and travelled for the rest). The stores were busy as expected but I'm not reporting on any holiday horror stories. This was no Black Friday Sale scenario. In fact, it was the complete opposite. I don't think I've ever heard "excuse me" and "sorry" as much in one day. It was a nice feeling, although I didn't go into this expecting anything different. The holiday season – to me, at least – always seems to be that way.

I always find it funny (and somewhat dejecting) people put so much of an inflated emphasis on this "season of giving" yet seem to forget this rationale for most of the rest of the year. It's like society collectively decides to put on its nice suit and be nice to each other in a show of decency to reflect the magic of the season. I find that to be both weird and short-sighted. Why should this be a time-limited thing?

This is reflected globally in many more circumstances than just holiday celebrations. I first noticed this phenomenon following the terrorist attacks of 9/11. While the "coming together" and brotherhood we were experiencing after the tragedy was nice, my immediate question was why it takes a tragedy of epic proportions to bring people together? Do we only bond on a deeper level when something more vital is at stake? The simple answer is yes.

I looked at all the spontaneous bonding following 9/11 with a jaded cynicism. Sure it was great how people bonded in times of need but sadly, in their regular lives, a lot of people don't feel that way about their fellow citizens. I wondered how long the clock would tick till we all went back to our regular lives of a dog-eat-dog world. People, in general, don't really care much about their fellow man. Yeah, when terrorism hits or we're on a manhunt for a lost soul we all bond together, but in general we mostly live very insular lives.

This is why I find the holiday season to be fascinating. It is pretty much mandated by society and the media to be as good as we can be during this short stretch of December.

This isn't to say people aren't acting out of the goodness of their heart, just that most can't sustain this on a regular basis.

Ask yourself why people make such a big deal of the holiday season. Why just then versus just doing this as a default mode out of simple love and human decency at all the other times of the year? The answer again is simple. We're so fixated on our daily lives that it's only socially-ordained moments like holidays which make us pause and reflect on who we are and what means the most to us. Holidays are those moments in time which force us to stop and smell the roses. In that sense so are catastrophic events that lead to a stark honesty of who we are. I'm not saying this to make you depressed, I'm just mentioning it as cautionary tale so we don't leave all the great moments, politeness and friendliness to having to be a cause of something. We can be decent by default.

I think that's a major benefit in living in sparsely-populated area like we do in that we are decent by default. It's a means of survival. Local residents cannot afford to be mean or jaded or distant with strangers, because frankly in a place like this, there are no strangers. That isn't said to sound smug or to be disrespectful to urban dwellers, it's just that places like this make it very difficult to remain anonymous and invisible – which is a really great thing.

All that said, the only point I'm trying to make here is that we all try to extend our requisite kindness beyond the limitations of a holiday season. In fact, let's not make it about a holiday season or special occasion of any kind. Decency isn't like a light switch that gets turned on and off when needed but should be looked at more like the sun – it's there all the time, whether we see it or not. Happy Holidays.



By Charlie Teljeur

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## HIGHLANDER HOLIDAY HOURS

The Highlander's office will be closed on Thursday, December 24 and will open again on Monday, January 4.

### Publication Schedule

First Issue of 2016 - Thursday, January 7, 2016  
(ad deadline January 4 at 5 p.m.)

Please note there will not be a paper for the week of December 28.

Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy New Year!



# Editorial opinion

## WeeWisdom

### A recipe for Christmas

I think holidays are like recipes. There are many different ways to make the same thing.

Take oatmeal raisin cookies for example. One family might make them with dried cranberries instead of raisins, one family might make them with extra raisins and another with chocolate chips instead. Each one is different but they are all still oatmeal cookies.

I think that is like Christmas.

My Christmas recipe would start with two cups of family. One of my favourite parts about the Christmas holidays are the get-togethers with my extended family for a huge dinner, gifts, hugs, smiles and laughs. The jokes and the funny things my family and I do and say are some things I look forward to all year.

I would then add a cup of turkey dinner and the Christmas crackers. I love the sound of the bang and the silly floppy crowns everyone wears. The kids table is the place to be, no adults and full of toddlers!

Next – mix in a trip to the forest to pick an excellent evergreen tree. We get bundled up in winter clothing and walk deep into the woods to search for the perfect one. My dad chops it down and we strap it to the sled so our dog can pull it home. We then string on the lights and hang the decorations. My favourite is hanging the new ornaments we have

brought back from each trip and adventure we have been on that year.

Then stir in a dash of Christmas songs, a pinch of stockings, a tbsp. of movie marathons, some shopping for the perfect gift. An advent calendar or two, slip in a tsp. of ice skating and a dollop of driving around to see the craziest and brightest houses we can find.

Now bake for six hours on Christmas Eve and take out at the crack of dawn. Don't wait for it to cool! Just wake up everyone to tell them Christmas has arrived.

Wrapping paper goes flying as I open my stockings before moving on to the pile of presents under the tree. I love to see the smiles on my parents' faces when I give them their gifts. Presents I have bought with my own savings. They are not big or flashy but something small from the heart that I know they will love.

To serve my holiday recipe, I still need a sprinkle of snow. Like when you order a dessert at a restaurant, where they drizzle chocolate sauce and sprinkle icing sugar on the plate. You don't always need it but it is much tastier with it.

My recipe for Christmas may be different than yours, but that is what makes the holidays special. We each have our own way of celebrating and enjoying this time of year.



By Anabelle Craig

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

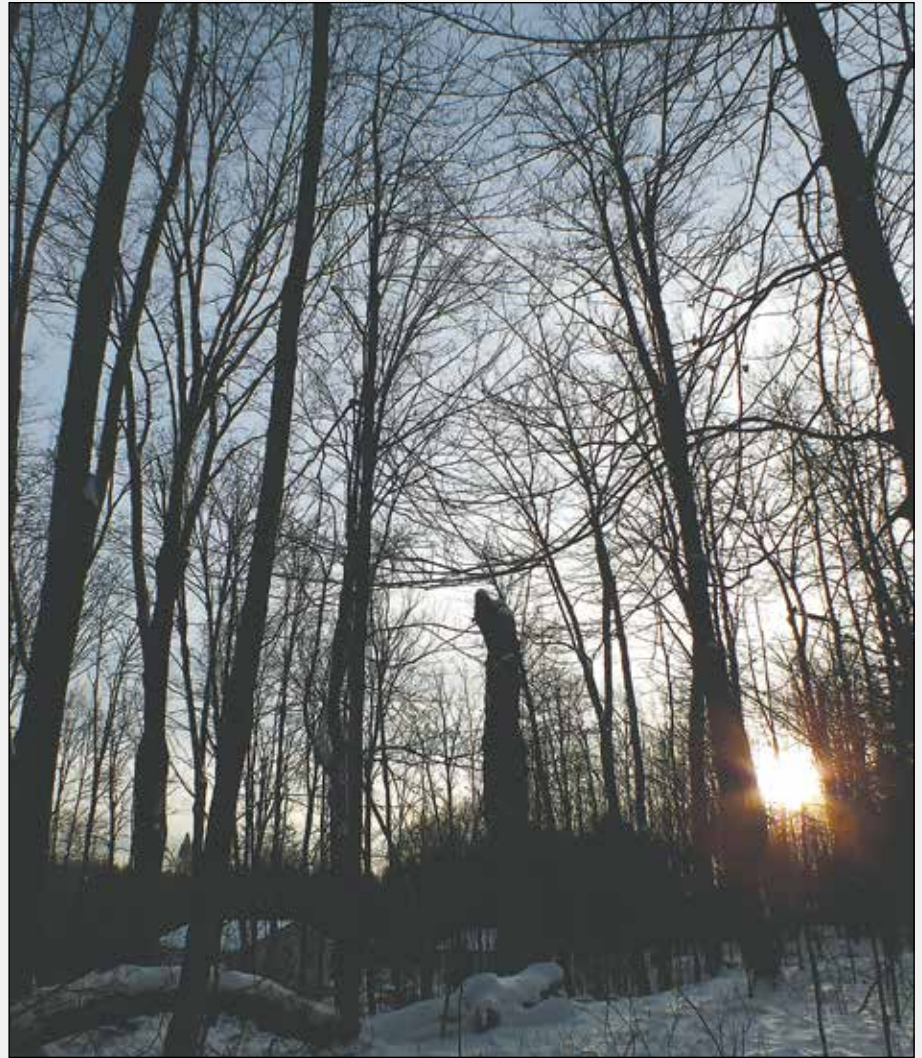


Photo by Alex Coop

The snow glistens in the sunlight during a late afternoon near Kashagawigamog Lake.

## I didn't sign up for this

'At the time of going to press...' This precursor to a story is often used in newspaper circles; it's very similar to 'at the time of writing...' Both are meant as a caveat, an admission that while what is to be read next was most certainly true at the allotted time, some if not all of it may have changed by the time you, the reader, gets around to picking up the paper or magazine, putting on your spectacles and begin to take notice of what is printed on the page. Or, in short, they mean "bugger, the darn story will probably have changed by the time anyone reads it but what the hell, we've got to fill this blank space with something!" And so, with this information set most firmly in the centre of your mind, read on, remembering that while the world of the local weekly newspaper is a constant whirlwind of stories, some things just cannot be predicted when pen and ink (oh how quaint) is put to paper.

You see, I'm pretty annoyed at the moment. My ire is directed at the weather and the dire misrepresentation that it seems I have fallen into the trap of believing. Canada is meant to be cold in winter! Canada is meant to be snowy in winter! Canada is meant to always

have white Christmases!

When, many moons ago, I began to toy with the idea of immigrating to Canada the thought of months of temperatures at -25 degrees Celsius and three feet of snow frightened me. I couldn't fathom how anyone could live in such inhospitable conditions. How they didn't suffocate from a frosty build-up of frozen boogers; how they could ever manage to keep their cars from simply sliding off the snowy roads; how anyone could ever keep warm, other than by huddling in large clumps like those penguins at the South Pole do, I hadn't a clue.

But winter and the frozen north also intrigued me. I was fed up with the dreary, chilly and wet British weather that seems to occur from October through to mid-May, each day being the same as the last, with no discernible difference other than the depth of puddles on the side of the road and the areas to be avoided on the pavements for fear of being splashed as a bus drove through one of said puddles. And so I took the plunge. Not literally into a puddle you'll understand but immigratory so to speak, signing my papers and setting in process the slowly grinding

cogs of bureaucracy that would eventually see me move to Canada. All the while I looked forward to my guaranteed white Christmases.

But, I now feel I've been duped. I signed up for a lot of stuff by emigrating to Canada and Haliburton but one thing I definitely did not sign up for was a green, wet Christmas! I can get one of those back in Blighty, thank you very much. No, I expect, in fact I demand a white Christmas and if I don't get one, I shall be writing to our most handsome Prime Minister wanting to know what he'll be doing about it.

I'm kind of glad that Stephen Harper has been kicked out because he'd probably just have thrown my letter in the bin but this new lad, well I think he's a bit of a softy, so you never know, he might set up a new "Ministry for English Chaps Who Expect Snow" on Christmas Day and guarantee it from now on.

And I hope he does because there are people in England who depend upon me for their wonderfully white Christmases. They write (well text) and ask, "Is it snowing yet?" regularly from mid-September onward

(yes they do think it gets cold that early) and as soon as I respond with positive news they want hourly

updates as to the depth, plus pictures of me and Little Z standing waist-deep in the white stuff. And if truth be known, I'll be rather sad myself if we don't see a white Christmas because, like Bing Crosby, I've been dreaming of one for a while now. That said, 'at the time of going to press', what little snow we had last week is melting fast and the weather man is predicting t-shirt and shorts weather for the big day, so it looks like I'll be out of luck.

What actually happens though between now, 'the time of writing', and Christmas Day is in the lap of the gods or some other fellow who sounds like he's the black Stetson wearing, cheroot-smoking baddy from a spaghetti western, El Nino, fastest rain slinger in the west. However, you never know, by Christmas Day, he may have met his match, Five-shot-Frosty, everyone's favourite wide-brimmed, white-hatted snowman.



By Will Jones



# Highlander opinion

## Eye on the street: *What is your 2016 New Year's Resolution?*



**Brendan Coumbs**

Haliburton

To stay out of the penalty box.



**Clarence Longdo**

Bracebridge

I ruined my New Year's resolution. I was going to quit smoking but I already did it.



**Darlene Armstrong**

Haliburton

To be healthier with proper eating and exercise.



**Gaye McLennan**

Bracebridge

To be more fit and walk the dogs more often.



**Sterling Nesbitt**

Minden

To encourage my hockey team and to work harder on my school work.

*Photos and interviews by Sue Tiffin*

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### Animals are not trophies

Dear editor,

I am writing to relay my displeasure of your "Trophy Wall" feature.

I was reading through the paper last week enjoying all of the lovely festive greetings and then came across the appalling "Trophy Wall" section. I find this section very offensive. A very large majority of the Ontario population does not hunt. I and many others find this page quite offensive let alone the timing of the placement of this segment at this time.

The display of the demise of innocent animals is bad enough but then to call them a "Trophy" is totally unacceptable. I am aware this is the term hunters tend to use but isn't it time to start portraying a kinder, gentler side to humanity?

Hunting to put food on your table for your family is one thing but to suggest these are trophies is totally inappropriate. Glorifying this through the media is very distasteful. Isn't it time to evolve?

Please consider removing this section from your paper in future.

**Trina West**  
*Haliburton County resident*

### Concrete poured at Minden's Beer Store

**By Sue Tiffin**  
Staff writer

It's official. A new home for The Beer Store in Minden is being built.

Concrete was poured at the construction site on Hwy. 35, next to Dollo's Foodland Dec. 22.

"It's very exciting," said Ben Jardine, manager of engineering for Greystone Project Management Inc. "Everything's going really smoothly with schedule, budget and site conditions."

Jardine said up to a dozen construction workers - some of them local - from the Huntsville-based construction company will work on the nearly 5,000-square-foot building. The store will represent The Beer Store's modern open-concept design with a bottle return facility, refrigerated new product storeroom and self-serve operation.

Though the interior of the retail store will be familiar to most consumers who have visited a newer beer store location, Jardine said the

exterior will differ.

"Instead of the brick and stone exterior that is common in the city, the exterior finishes will be suited to the area using wood siding, trim and masonry details."

Greystone Project Management Inc. was responsible for building a similar store in Huntsville this year. Like the Huntsville building, Minden's will be only the second beer store with a wood frame structure, according to Jardine. He said this type of construction would benefit the local economy and local suppliers. As for whether or not the new store would have space for a mural, like the one painted on the current store on Water Street, Jardine said he wasn't sure of how the facade of the building would be designed.

"I don't know," he said. "It's certainly up to The Beer Store. We're happy to facilitate and entertain any ideas they put forth."

Jardine said construction is planned to be finished in early spring.

Send your letters to [jennifer@thehighlander.ca](mailto:jennifer@thehighlander.ca)

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# Highlander news



Photo by Mark Arike

Tim Hortons operations manager Debbie Rouble and owner Nancy Bishop (third and fourth from left) present the proceeds from the Smile Cookie campaign to VDO board members Melanie Aldom, Kathy Purc, Bill Kerr, Sandra Slauenwhite-Box and Lisa Kerr. The presentation took place at the Minden location on Dec. 17. Absent are board members Betty Mills, Janis Parker, Brigitte Gebauer and Mark Arike.

## VDO cashes in on cookies

By Alex Coop  
Staff writer

Members of the Volunteer Dental Outreach board of directors were all smiles Dec. 17 as they received a cheque for \$3,920 at the Minden Tim Hortons.

The funds came from the annual Smile Cookie Campaign run by Tim Hortons from Sept. 14 to 20. The sale of freshly baked, chocolate chunk Smile Cookies built on last year's success of the campaign, which raised

over \$3,000 for the local charity.

According to the VDO, the charity has provided nearly \$1,490,000 in free dental care to 581 patients in Haliburton County to date.

In an email to *The Highlander*, VDO board member Lisa Kerr said they're always looking for extra help.

"With our constant waiting list, we are always welcoming new and returning licensed volunteer dentists and dental hygienists to help with the needs in our community."



By Sue Tiffin

## Kin Club donates \$1,500 to food bank

Haliburton County residents who have been playing Kinsmen Super TV Bingo on Saturday nights can collectively celebrate a win. Money raised by selling tickets for the broadcasted game at shops throughout the county enabled the Kinsmen Club of Minden Inc. to donate \$1,500 to the Minden Community Food Centre Dec. 22. "We've always supported the food bank," said Kin Club member Jim Carrell. "Especially at Christmas for the families that need it."

Pictured above from left, Minden Community Food Centre manager Joanne Barnes, Kin Club member Jim Carrell, Kin Club president Andy Rickard and food centre chairperson Marilynne Lesperance.

# Christmas basket program supports hundreds

By Sue Tiffin  
Staff writer

Recipients of the Christmas Basket program lined up early outside of the Minden Community Centre Dec. 18, waiting for the doors to open.

Inside, volunteers excitedly did last-minute checks of boxes, finished organizing supply tables and prepared to distribute 172 boxes to people who felt they needed additional support this season, including those living on their own, single parents, families and the elderly.

Piles of pellets for wood stoves and boxes of clementines sat on one table. Bags of toys organized by age and racks of warm, gently used winter clothing were on one side of the room. Boxes of groceries included a ham or turkey, dish soap and diapers. Each one included a letter from a student at Archie Stouffer, thanking the volunteers and food bank for their effort and wishing recipients a Merry Christmas.

"I bet all the people are overfilling with happiness," read one. "Keep it up."

The food, clothes, supplies and even hot chocolate and snacks for the volunteers were donated by many individuals, organizations and businesses so great, Christmas Basket program organizer Ron Reid couldn't list them all.

"It's just everybody," he said. "It's everybody in the town."

Reid said he was overwhelmed by the number of volunteers who helped put the baskets together. He was one of the original group of people who started the program about 20 years ago and said back then there were just a few organizers.

"I remember the first year we did it there were like five or six of us," he said. "And now there's like 60 every day."

Working through the Minden Food Centre, the Christmas Basket program supported about 450-475 people - including 150 kids - from Minden and Kinmount this year. Reid said the number of recipients hadn't changed much over the years, but the generosity of the community had grown.

"When we were first part of it, there were busy, long days," he said. "But with 60 volunteers, you do in one hour what you did then in 10 hours."

Recipients of the supplies sign up for the program a few weeks in advance and Reid said there isn't a financial background check or interview process for those who apply for a basket.

"I don't judge," he said. "If they decide they need a box and if there's food for them, they get a box. We have to support these people. If there's generosity in a community, then why



Photo by Sue Tiffin

Recipients of the Christmas basket program collected groceries, warm clothes, wood pellets and toys to help get their families through the festive season.

not support them?"

At least one recipient of a basket was volunteering Dec. 18, helping to do some heavy lifting to ensure the distribution process ran smoothly.

Judy MacDuff, vice-chair and treasurer of the Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank said 174 vouchers were given to people in need in Haliburton and 43 vouchers were distributed to recipients needing help in Cardiff this season.

"We didn't seem to have a lot of room to pack boxes," she said. "We thought it would

be nice for clients to buy their own groceries as we can't stock a bunch of it."

In Haliburton, most food bank clients are registered for a voucher. The recipient list between towns in the county is cross-referenced to ensure families are receiving just one voucher or hamper. MacDuff said the numbers seem to go up steadily each year, but the community is well supported.

"People have been great with donations of food," she said. "Pretty well everyone on our list has been taken care of."



# Highlander news

## County in brief

### Busy year for fire department

**By Mark Arike**  
Staff writer

It has been a busy year for the Highlands East fire department.

On Dec. 14, Fire Chief Bill Wingrove told council the department could reach 300 calls by the end of the month.

"As you can see, this year we've been really busy," said Wingrove, while reviewing the calls.

"As usual, we've had a lot of medicals and a lot of structure fires this month."

In November there were 262 calls, but at the time of his report that number grew to 277.

### Heating upgrades on hold

**By Mark Arike**  
Staff writer

Highlands East is on its third try to find a contractor to upgrade the heating system at the Lloyd Watson Centre and municipal office in Wilberforce.

"In speaking with contractors the amount of time that it was advertised and the closing date was not sufficient for them to prepare and submit a tender," wrote property supervisor Jim Alden in a report to council.

Alden recommended reissuing a tender in the new year with a closing date of March 31, 2016. The work would be completed during the summer months.

"They all seemed [to think] that would work," he said during a Dec. 14 council meeting.

He noted a summer completion date will offer "more favourable weather conditions."

The recent tender was advertised from Nov. 2-13.

Council approved the reissuing of the tender.

### Outdoor ice rink a reality in Minden

**By Sue Tiffin**  
Staff writer

Funds raised in memory of Dawson Hamilton will be put to good use this winter.

An outdoor skating rink will be built in the baseball diamond area behind S.G. Nesbitt arena in Minden using almost \$5,000 in donations collected at a memorial hockey game for the Minden boy who died of leukemia in 2010. A \$5,000 Hydro One Power Play grant will also be put toward the project, which has a \$10,000 budget.

Mark Coleman, director of community services, said township staff are prepared to assemble the 26 by 42 foot portable

outdoor rink when materials for it arrive in early January. Usage of the rink will be weather dependent, but Coleman said it will be available for public use 24 hours a day with lighting available part of the time.

A picnic shelter built in memory of Ryerson Neave-Bacon, who died in 2009, is planned for the same area.

### Teenagers promote sustainability

**By Sue Tiffin**  
Staff writer

Two local teenagers are promoting sustainable living around the world by starting a garden at home.

The teens formed the one.to.three youth organization to promote education on global environmental issues, the importance of growing food and creating sustainable food security around the world. Their idea to create a youth garden beside Nature's Place in Minden was approved by councillors at a council meeting Dec. 10. The garden will offer hands-on gardening experience to local youth, who will learn about sustainable permaculture and the environment. It will be managed by one.to.three and overseen by the cultural centre curator.

"Further to this, one.to.three will work to connect with a community in a third world country to simulate the same principles:

understanding one's environment and how to grow produce to create the empowerment of self-sufficiency," reads a report by Mark Coleman, director of community services.

Coleman said the start-up costs of the project are low and the group only requires some rain barrels and gardening materials. A private donor is willing to sponsor the project with part of his donation to the cultural centre.

Food grown from the youth garden will be distributed amongst the group or donated to the local food bank.

### Highlands East searching for new truck

**By Mark Arike**  
Staff writer

Highlands East is in the market for a new truck and snow plow for the roads department.

On Dec. 14, council approved a request from roads superintendent Earl Covert to issue a tender for the new vehicle and equipment. The projected cost is \$225,000.

"The sooner the truck is tendered and ordered the sooner we will take delivery as Viking, who installs the plow equipment, gets very busy in spring and summer," wrote Covert in a report. "The trucks are done on a first-come, first-serve basis."

The new truck and plow will replace a vehicle from 2006.

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## INFORMATION PAGE

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The township of Minden Hills  
*Family Fun New Year's Eve*  
**When:** Thursday Dec. 31 6 pm - 8 pm  
**Where:** S.G. Nesbitt Arena  
**What to expect:** Skating, Tobogganing and Hot Chocolate - **all for FREE!**  
*Please note: Skates and Toboggans not provided*

#### Meetings & Events

##### Dec 31

6:00-8:00 pm, Family Fun New Year's Eve at the S.G Nesbitt Arena  
Skating, tobogganing and hot chocolate all for free!  
Please Note: skates and toboggans not provided

##### January 28

9:00 am, COTW/Regular Council Meeting, Minden Council Chambers  
\*Please note that Council has reduced its meeting schedule to one meeting in January to be held on Thursday, January 28, 2015.

#### Public Skating

At the S.G Nesbitt Arena,  
Sundays & Wednesdays  
12:00 to 2:00 pm. Cost  
\$2/person

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11:00 AM & 12:00 PM  
JANUARY 2  
11:00 AM & 12:00 PM  
\*helmets recommended for  
all skaters. Children 10 and  
under must wear a CSA  
helmet and be accompanied  
by a guardian 14 or older.

For more information,  
please contact Elisha  
Weiss at 705-286-2298 or  
[eweiss@mindenhills.ca](mailto:eweiss@mindenhills.ca)

#### Sunday Shinny at the SG Nesbitt Arena

Every Sunday until March 6th  
10:00am-11:00am Ages 8-12  
11:00am-12:00pm Ages 13-17  
Cost is \$2.00 per person/per session

PLEASE NOTE: Every player MUST  
wear protective gear on ice and MUST  
have a waiver signed by a parent/  
guardian (Staff reserves the right to deny  
participation)

For more information on this program  
please contact Elisha Weiss at  
705-286-2298 or [eweiss@mindenhills.ca](mailto:eweiss@mindenhills.ca)

#### Riverwalk & Wetlands Boardwalk Winter Usage

The Boardwalk & Logger's  
Crossing Bridge are cleared of  
snow regularly but are not sanded  
or salted. Residents are advised  
to "Exercise Caution" when using  
as these pathways could develop  
slippery conditions.

#### Winter Sand

Is available at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena parking lot, 55 Parkside Street for  
residential use. Please note this is for Individual Use Only - No Commercial Users Please.

## Seasons Greetings

### From the Township of Minden Hills

Council and staff would like to wish  
everyone in Minden Hills  
a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

### MUNICIPAL HOLIDAY HOURS

**Administration Office**  
After hours emergency number 1-866-856-3247

Hours of Operation:  
Dec 21st to Dec 23rd 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Dec 24th 8:30 am - 11:30 am  
CLOSED Dec 25 to Jan 3rd, 2016

**Cultural Centre/Agnes Jamieson Gallery**  
CLOSED Dec 20th  
Regular hours resume Jan 6, 2016  
Ongoing Exhibition: Voices of the Engravers.

**Landfills**  
All Sites are CLOSED Dec 25th & Jan 1st

**S.G Nesbitt Arena**  
Dec 24th 8:30 - 11:30  
CLOSED Dec 25th & 26th  
Dec 27th - Regular hours resume  
CLOSED Jan 1st



# Highlander news

## Province supports labour market pilot

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

Haliburton County is set to benefit from a pilot project being led by the Workforce Development Board (WDB).

The provincial government awarded the organization \$1.3 million Dec. 1 to take on the 18-month project, which will provide labour market information to employers and job seekers.

"We're very excited about the opportunities that this presents, to work with our community partners with the kind of resources that the government has put into this," said Joe Celestini, CEO of the WDB.

According to a press release from MPP Laurie Scott Dec. 16, the WDB "will deliver one of eight Local Employment Planning Council (LEPC) pilot projects in the province."

"These councils will act as hubs and provide labour market information to employers, industry associations and other stakeholders. With access to such information, the government, businesses, young graduates and schools will be better equipped to create jobs and grow the economy," reads the release.

Located in Peterborough, the WDB is a non-profit organization which serves Northumberland, Peterborough, Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton.

Celestini said the pilot is a continuation of the work the WDB has already been doing.

Scott's release also states the WDB will support integrated service and workforce planning, work with the community to ensure employment and training programs are giving job-seekers the skills they need, and "support innovative, local projects that address labour market issues specific to the community."

In the near future, the WDB will invite key

individuals across the four areas to sit around the central planning table.

"Their role is essentially to create a strategic plan for the LEPC," he said, pointing out that individuals from Haliburton will be invited to join.

Each area will also have three working groups to help develop the strategic plan.

"The idea is what we're doing is working with a broad group of people who are responsible for ... gathering, analyzing and distributing labour market info that's useful to those groups and undertaking projects that are done by external organizations that touch on the priorities," he said.

The working groups will feed information to the central planning team, said Celestini. Once a strategic plan is approved, they will do community roll-outs in February including in Haliburton.

Celestini is optimistic about the pilot's future success and believes it could extend beyond its 18-month timeframe.

"My sense is that we're going to have a successful pilot, that we'll be able to demonstrate that we've moved things along significantly for everybody."

He said the government will hire a third party consultant to review the pilots and make recommendations.

Scott shared her enthusiasm for the pilot in her press release.

"I am proud that the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County will contribute to delivering expert information and support local jobs," she said. "I know that the Workforce Development Board will continue to provide the best customer service to support Ontario's jobs, engage employers like small businesses, and coordinate the needed skills training programs."

To learn more about the WDB visit [wdb.ca](http://wdb.ca).

## More than a food bank

Central Food Network to serve as food bank and cooking workshop

By Alex Coop  
Staff writer

A vision which began to take shape nearly two years ago is on the verge of becoming a reality in Wilberforce.

In January 2016, a new addition to the Lloyd Watson Centre will finally open, which will be known as the area's new Central Food Network. It will serve as a hub for the Wilberforce and Cardiff food banks.

"We won't be in full swing when we open, we'll still be waiting for our walk-in fridge and freezer, but we'll be open," said Ken Mott, manager of the Wilberforce Food Bank.

Discussions between Mott and John Teljeur, president of the Central Food Network, regarding the possible creation of a food hub in the county began nearly two years ago.

The idea was to create a centre which not only served as a food bank, but also as an education centre which would teach people how to cook food properly.

"Some of the food we tried to give out nobody wanted," Mott said. "It was healthy food but they didn't know how to use it or cook it, so our first idea was to get a place that had a kitchen so we could run a cooking program and teach people how to use the food we were giving out."

Teljeur and Mott approached Highlands East Council in early 2014 to try and establish a permanent home for the

concept. Council proposed the idea of building an attachment to the Lloyd Watson Centre, which could be used for the food hub's purposes.

An application was made by the Central Food Network to the Ontario Trillium Fund in July 2014. In October, Teljeur and Mott discovered they were approved for a \$141,300 grant that would kickstart the construction of their facility. The construction began in early spring 2015 and was completed about six weeks ago.

Teljeur said the new space will provide the food banks with opportunities to participate in programs organized by the Ontario Association of Food Banks.

"[The association] has a program that basically notifies food banks when food becomes available in the system due to a farmer who has donated food or something," he said. "The association puts this notice in a program called Snap, and food banks can

approve whether or not they want it. The food bank in Wilberforce couldn't take advantage of any of this because they had no place to store the food."

He added a long range goal for the Central Food Network will be to become a member of the Ontario Association of Food Banks. Teljeur was the director of the Ontario Association of Food Banks prior to becoming general manager at the Pinestone Resort.

According to Teljeur, plans are underway to develop a communications network with other Haliburton County organizations which would benefit from the opportunity to bulk buy or accept free food.

...Our first idea was to get a place that had a kitchen so we could run a cooking program.

Ken Mott  
Manager of the Wilberforce Food Bank



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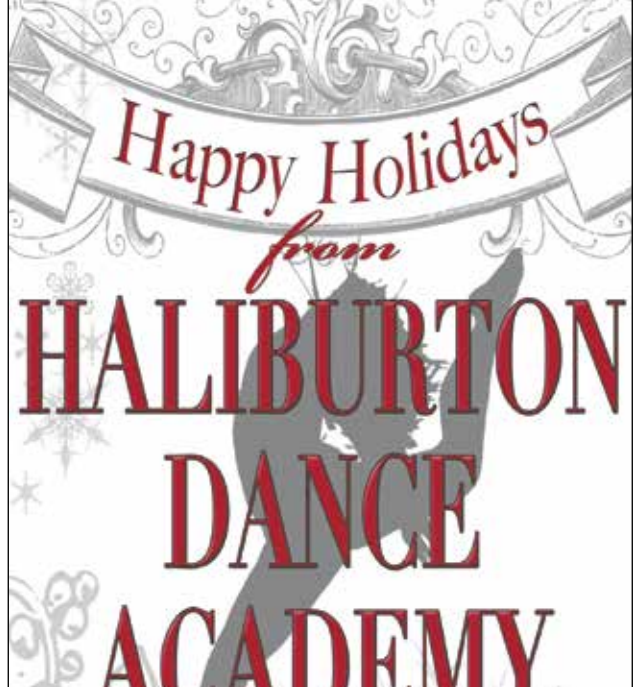
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# Highlander news



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Holiday office hours:  
**CLOSED**

Thursday December 24  
to  
Sunday January 3

*Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year*  
from the Chamber staff and board



Haliburton Highlands  
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

## Fearrey finishes final term as warden

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

Dysart Reeve and county councillor Murray Fearrey looks back fondly on the time he first became warden more than 30 years ago.

"It was 1974, Haliburton County's centennial year," recalled Fearrey. "It was kind of an exciting time to be warden—I was deputy-reeve of Dysart at the time and it was my second year on county council."

He called it "an honour to be chosen" from a field of 21 county councillors.

"It was a very busy year because there were events going on all over the county. So I was very fortunate that I had business partners that allowed me to take the time to do the job," he said. (Fearrey was in business with Ken Wilson and Jim Scheffee at Haliburton Lumber.)

"That was probably the year as warden that I'll remember the most," he added.

At the start of 2015, Fearrey was elected warden by his colleagues for the 12th time. Just over a week ago he handed the reins to Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt.

"I find it very easy [to hand over the reins]. You're part of a team and you're passing [it] on to someone else that you feel can lead the charge."

Moffatt held the position for the first time in 2013.

"It's an honour to get the nod from your colleagues, and certainly the support I've received through social media and emails and people in the street has been overwhelming," said Moffatt.

She said she learned a lot her first time around, including what to do and what not to do.

"I tried the best I could to be everything for everybody and as everyone knows that's a



Photo by Mark Arike

Murray Fearrey, Dysart reeve and former county warden, at a council meeting.

recipe for disaster," she said.

For her second term, Moffatt will focus on governance.

"People may find a more visibly low key warden Carol Moffatt, but my efforts will not wane behind the scenes."

As outlined in a press release, her top priorities for the upcoming year include tourism, revisiting the OPP billing model, poverty reduction, green energy and high-speed Internet.

Asked what accomplishments he was most proud of in 2015, Fearrey highlighted the work of county council and staff.

"I think that the biggest accomplishment

we've had as a council is the kind of folks we've brought in to do those jobs. I think we've got quality people—we've made good choices."

He commended the tourism department for the progress they've made, including the launch of a revamped website.

Fearrey confirmed his 12th term as warden was his last.

"My lucky number isn't 13," he quipped. "So I'm going to stop now."

County council is currently comprised of eight members including the reeve and deputy-reeve of the four municipalities. They elect the warden each year.

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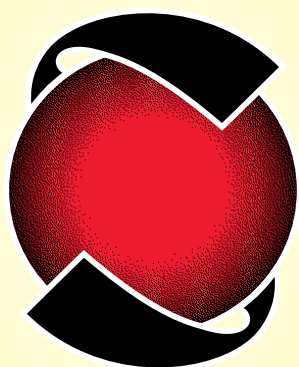


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# Highlander business

## Business cools in warmer weather

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

With temperatures expected to reach 13 degrees Celsius this week and rain in the forecast, it feels more like spring than winter in the Highlands. While that may bring joy to some local residents, it's not exactly ideal for businesses which rely on a snow-filled season.

Joanne Sharpley, owner of Joanne Sharpley's Source for Sports in Haliburton, described the impact on her business as "huge." For the first time in 25 years the business is offering a pre-Christmas sale.

"Even if it was cold, minus 15 (degrees Celsius) and no snow, people would still be buying coats, snow pants, boots ... so no snow plus super warm weather is kind of like a double whammy," said Sharpley.

During a good season, she would have already rented out 25 pairs of snowshoes and 25 pairs of cross-country skis every day. So far that number is at zero.

"It's a big huge circle effect on all of us," she said, referring to not just business in town but any that rely on snow and the cold.

Barrie Martin, owner of Yours Outdoors, received several inquiries in November but this month has been a lot quieter.

"I've definitely seen a slowdown," said Martin. "I've also been talking to some operators and they're getting cancellations."

One of his clients is booked to go dog sledding Dec. 28, but at this point it's highly unlikely they will be able to do so, he said.

Martin specializes in experience packages for individuals, couples and small groups. Although he has different offerings throughout the year, the winter season tends to be his most popular.

"My winter is technically my busiest season. When you don't have your busiest season busy, then you've got some issues."

Located in Eagle Lake, Sir Sam's Ski/Ride opened for business on Dec. 19 with one run available. According to Chris

Bishop, general manager and co-owner of the business, they were the only ski resort in Ontario open to the public.

About 180 people showed up over the course of the weekend, which is typical for opening weekend. However, they are usually open by the second week of December.

"People didn't come out because of the limited number of lifts and runs that were open," said Bishop.

Christmas makes up about 30 per cent of their business for the entire year, but more runs likely won't be opened up until Boxing Day.

"We'll just have to stay positive," he said, adding "there is snow-making coming."

They can open one run per day if staff are able to produce snow during a 24-hour period. The temperature needs to be at least -2 degrees Celsius for that to happen.

The late start to the season impacts some operational decisions, especially when it comes to staff hours. Sir Sam's employees a total of 78 full and part-time employees throughout the winter.

"Everything gets cut back when it's all based on how many people there are. Unfortunately, [staff] who are hoping for a full paycheck aren't going to be getting one because the work is not there for them."

Haliburton County Snowmobile Association (HCSA) president Paul Gaudin isn't too concerned about the lack of snow and balmy temperatures at this time.

"We're just getting ready equipment-wise and manpower-wise—the same as we normally do," said Gaudin.

Most of the HCSA's 370 kilometres of groomed trails don't usually open until the

second week in January.

"Last year we had a green Christmas. We had snow early and then it went away. Then we were open and when it came it came quickly as it always does," he said.

Snow isn't the only necessary ingredient. Water crossings, such as lakes and swamps, need to freeze to a certain depth before volunteers can stake those trails.

"It has to be measured and once it's measured, the appropriate person goes out and stakes the lakes. Some of it's just not passable until it freezes."

Permit sales were above average in November, but have slowed down since.

Overall, the numbers are "pretty much

where they were last year," he said.

Amanda Virtanen, tourism director for the County of Haliburton, said there has been "a slight drop in visits" to the tourist information centre off Highway 35 in Minden, "but nothing alarming."

"No one has specifically reached out to me about it, I

suppose they realize I don't control the weather," wrote Virtanen in an email.

"That said, I've heard from a few folks who said that their season doesn't really start until mid-January anyhow, even in a very 'snowy' year."

Virtanen said they are delivering a consistent message to those who are considering visiting the area this winter.

"We are the one area close to the GTA [Greater Toronto Area] where a tourist can almost always rely on snow, so stay tuned in for January! We continue to promote our winter activities for those who are planning 2016 vacations and day trips," she said.

To find out what runs are open at Sir Sam's visit [sirsams.com](http://sirsams.com). Snowmobilers can find updates on the trails at [hcsa.ca](http://hcsa.ca).

*I've definitely seen a slow down.*

Barrie Martin  
Owner, Yours Outdoors

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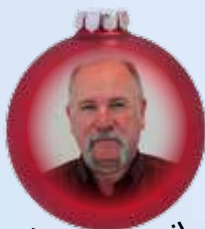
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Jason Curry  
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Amanda Dovell  
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3 years



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1/2 year



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7 years



Pat Adamson  
8 years



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3 years



Norm Perrott  
17 years



Gary Williams  
10 years



Doug Woodley  
9 years



Marcel Crete  
17 years



Dave Cook  
34 years



Mike Wilson  
1+ years



Tim Curry  
2 years



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23 years



Wayne Smith  
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Ken Newell  
3 years



Drew Dunn  
3 years



Cleve Shaw  
34 years



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# Highlander business

## Dysart draws on residents to tackle challenges

### New economic development committee looks forward to 2016

By Alex Coop

Staff writer

Many different sectors in the community are being represented by Dysart's newly formed economic development committee, and according to its members, that diversity is vital.

Ten people were officially selected by the municipality Dec. 14 to join the township's new committee, capping off a recruitment phase which began in April. It involved various public consultations and discussions with other stakeholders in the community.

The committee's goal is clear; look for ways to stimulate the township's economy through various factors related to economic development, including housing, recreation, business, education and culture, among others. Achieving this goal, however, will be no small feat, but Reeve Murray Fearrey is highly optimistic.

"It's a meeting of the minds and all of these avenues pulled together will make something happen," Murray said. "[The committee] won't function unless you have the diversity."

Aaron Walker, part-owner of McKeck's restaurant and coordinator for the Haliburton County Food for Kids organization, is one of the members of the economic development committee. He said his ties to the hospitality

and retail sectors will help keep the group connected with those channels. However, he stressed the importance of the municipality's sub committees and how they will continue to play an integral part in economic development.

*Although I'm happy to be on this committee, there are a lot of intelligent people who have gathered a lot of information and resources on these sub-committees.*

**Aaron Walker**

Economic development committee member

"Although I'm happy to be on this committee, there are a lot of intelligent people who have gathered a lot of information and resources on these sub committees," Walker said, referring to the business retention and expansion, housing, environment and recreation sub committees.

"I think it's worth taking note of the contributions they're making, because they're coming up with a lot of the objectives and timelines."

The newly formed committee's first meeting Jan. 11, 2016 will focus a lot on job creation and education, specifically in the trades, Murray explained. Other topics will also be covered, many of which overlap with the county's poverty reduction strategy.

According to an email sent to *The Highlander*, the committee also hopes to "finalize a draft plan to take to Council for endorsement at the February council meeting." The plan is being developed with the help of Judy Coward, development advisor with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). Input from public sessions which took place during the workshops at the Haliburton Curling Club in June will be incorporated into the plan.

Linda Baumgartner, who has been in the real estate business in the Haliburton area for 28 years, said public input will continue to be an important cog in the economic development committee's progress moving forward.

"Everyone has their own expertise and interests, so I think it's important to have that diverse input," Baumgartner said.

In addition, her position as vice president of the Haliburton Chamber of Commerce will provide the committee with a direct link to the chamber and its resources.

"It has been identified by council, the reeve and the chamber's strategic plan, to start working more harmoniously with council," Baumgartner said. "So being a liaison between the two and being familiar with the chamber, I think will prove to be an asset as well."

The economic development committee is comprised of Derek Knowles, Tammy Donaldson, Deputy-Reeve Andrea Roberts, Reeve Murray Fearrey, Pat Kennedy, Glenn Evans, Bram Lebo, Linda Baumgartner, Aaron Walker, and John Patterson.

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# Highlander business

## Volunteers needed for HE program

By Jennifer Hughey  
Editor

Highlands East is looking into its business retention and expansion.

The municipality posted on their website Dec. 17 they are looking for volunteers to interview and businesses to survey to gain more information and to determine if there are opportunities for growth.

Trails and economic development manager for Highlands East Curtis Tighe said the program allows the municipality to engage in a dialogue with existing businesses to determine their needs and challenges so they can learn how to address them better.

"Business Retention and Expansion (BR+E) is a program offered through the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)," said Tighe in an email, noting the program was identified as part of the scope of their Economic Development and Business Advisory Committee when it was set up for the municipality.

"BR+E was also identified as an objective to achieve the goal through marketing, promotion and public relations, support tourism and economic development in the strategic plan," Tighe said.

Kent Fitzhugh works as an agriculture and rural economic development advisor with the OMAFRA. He said many times communities could have a local business ready to leave because they are not aware of something as simple as a building stock they could move into to expand.

"We make assumptions that we know to

a degree, how our business community is doing and what pressures they are under," said Fitzhugh.

"The great thing about BR+E is that through the survey process, questions are asked sector specific and it's amazing what can come back from that process."

BR+E can determine if a skill set is missing which a local business requires. The benefit of a community which knows that in advance means they can work together with the OMAFRA to find those who may be able to apply.

"Looking after the businesses that exist within your own community is very, very important," said Fitzhugh. "A large percentage of growth and job development comes from businesses that already exist in your community. Having a better understanding of those businesses and their challenges is what BR+E can really help with."

The OMAFRA website states between 75-90 per cent of new jobs in a community come from businesses that already exist there.

Reeve Dave Burton said the initiative is important when it comes to grant writing for the municipality.

"I am pretty excited about it. If it's handled properly, it could be pretty big for Highlands East,"

They are looking for volunteers who would be sent out to ask the questions, typically teams of two, who would be given questions in advance. If interested, residents are encouraged to contact Curtis Tighe at ctighe@highlandseast.ca or call 705-448-2981 Ext. 226



Photo by Alex Coop

Construction workers in the county are seeing more rain than snow this December.

## Contractors benefit from no snow

By Alex Coop  
Staff writer

The lack of snow has resulted in longer season for some local businesses.

Compared to the month of December in 2014, Rylie Sloan, operations manager of Francis Thomas Contracting Co. LTD has reported a 50 to 60 per cent increase in the number of projects.

"During those 78 days of October, we've been very productive," Sloan laughed. "We've been able to do a lot of driveway spreading, grading jobs, which would normally be a big no-no at this time of year."

He said even the snowfall, which hit the county over the weekend, hasn't done much to slow the work flow.

"Snow is a bit of a pain in the butt, but you can still do all that same work because the frost has not settled in at all," Sloan said. "Last year, we had snow in November and it got brutally cold pretty early."

Libern Miscil, proprietor for Miscio Construcion, said the warmer temperatures have put them ahead about two weeks compared to where they were last year in December.

"You can still dig in any place in the ground with a shovel," Miscil said, referring to the softness of the ground.

The rainfall, which has seemingly switched places with the snow for the past several weeks, has proved to be an inconvenience, but not enough of one to put a halt to the work being done, he added.

"We're pretty much out there no matter what," he said.

During Algonquin Highland's council meeting Dec. 10, public works manager Mike Thomas acknowledged the increased number of projects the township had been able to complete due to warmer temperatures. A lot of those projects were road-related.



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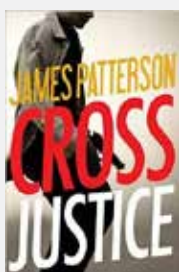
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# Highlander arts

## Haliburton County's Hot Reads

The following are popular new additions to the Haliburton County Public Library's collection this week.



### HCPL's TOP FICTION

1. *Cross Justice* by James Patterson
2. *Midnight Sun* by Jo Nesbo
3. *The Moth Catcher* by Ann Cleeves

### HCPL's TOP NON-FICTION

1. *The Guy n the Left: Sports Stories from the Best Seat in the House* by James Duthie
2. *Better Than Before: Mastering the Habits of Our Everyday Lives* by Gretchen Rubin
3. *Inequality: What Can Be Done?* by Anthony B. Atkinson

### HCPL's TOP JUNIOR TITLES

1. *Frozen Story Collection* (Disney Frozen) (Picture Book)
2. *Rethinking Normal: A Memoir in Transition* by Katie Rain Hill (YA Nonfiction)

### AUDIO and VIDEO at HCPL

1. *Shaun the Sheep Movie* (DVD)
2. *The Theft of Memory: Losing My Father, One Day at a Time* by Jonathan Kozol (Book on CD)

### LIBRARY NEWS

Holiday hours are here! All branches will be closed Dec. 24-26, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. Our Dorset branch will also be closed Dec. 29-30. Our Administration Centre will be closed Dec. 24 to Jan. 3. For our complete hours – including new hours for 2016 – please visit our website at [haliburtonlibrary.ca](http://haliburtonlibrary.ca)



Photo by Sue Tiffin

Fibre artist Hannah Strand said her second Wrap it Up exhibition was a good opportunity to show off her work.

## Fleming students wrap up their year

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

The end of the year is a busy time for many, including Fleming College certificate program students.

On Dec. 19 some of those students participated in Wrap it Up, an exhibition intended to give the artists firsthand experience in the world of craft shows.

"It's a good experience for beginners," said Visual and Creative Arts Diploma (VCAD) student Jaimie Figueira. "Especially in a setting as easy as this with family and friends. It's a really good set-up for real life."

Figueira was displaying and selling her ceramic work at the show after putting

together a portfolio, an artist statement and a booth as part of her program.

There were almost 60 booths at the show, some showcasing work in ceramics, artist blacksmithing, fibre arts, photography, drawing and painting.

Show coordinator Erin Lynch said it was a good turnout, with hundreds of people in attendance, including family and friends of the students as well as community members. "They like to come out and see what the students are doing," said Lynch. "It's a great opportunity to see emerging artists."

The artists answered questions about their work and sold some pieces at the show.

"It's a little nerve-wracking, but you kind of forget about it," said Figueira, who was part

of the show for the first time.

Expressive arts student Hannah Strand had been at the show before and had experience growing up at art shows with her parents. She said the project was a good opportunity to become more familiar with the process.

"It's really wonderful to compile everything I've done throughout the year and to show it off," she said.

Jayne Salisbury of Bowmanville was braving the snow to visit her son, who was taking part in the show.

"I really can't even being to express how thrilled I am for him," she said. "This has just been a wonderful experience."

Another student exhibition at Fleming College takes place in the spring.



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# Highlander health



Photo submitted

Maggie Britton graduated from the PSW Haliburton program in 2014.

## PSW program comes to Minden

By Sue Tiffin  
Staff writer

A flip through local classified ads will often show the need for personal support workers (PSW) throughout the county. PSWs are health care workers who provide care to elderly, sick or disabled clients.

But that need may be satisfied as Loyalist College will be offering a 38-week, hands-on PSW program in Minden beginning in March 2016.

"There are jobs right here in Haliburton County for PSWs," said Sarah Adams, online learning recruitment officer for Contact North, which connects residents with local educational opportunities. "Given our growing senior population, the prognosis is good that PSWs will be needed in the future."

Together with Loyalist College, Contact North is coordinating information sessions to help interested potential students learn more about the opportunity available to them. In order for the program to run in Minden, 10 registrants are required.

"The demand for personal support workers is greater than ever and keeps growing in order to meet the needs of an aging population," said Lisa Woodcock, admissions/records and placement officer at Loyalist College. "The students will learn how to make a difference every day by helping people live with independence and dignity."

The off-site PSW program has been offered by Loyalist College throughout rural communities in Ontario for years. Despite being advertised in Minden in 2014 it was eventually not offered due to lack of enrollment but it has been successful in Bancroft, Barry's Bay and Haliburton.

"I really enjoyed the hands on experience and the small class number," said Maggie Britton, who graduated from the program in Haliburton in 2014. "I was able to ask questions and get extra help from my teachers when needed, helping me get exceptional marks and make the honour roll."

Bancroft student Tatum McTeague agreed a small class size is a benefit in the program. "You actually have the chance to have relationships with the teachers," she said. "You get to know them and they get to know you."

Woodcock said the benefits of taking the PSW program within Minden enabled residents here seeking a college education to reduce the cost of travelling, accommodation and child care. The course includes a local practicum so students can gain experience in the area.

"Another major benefit of staying in their community is that they are able to lean on their network of family and friends for support and encouragement, to help them succeed," she said.

Woodcock noted students in the program come from a variety of backgrounds, genders, levels of education and range in age from high school graduates to 65-year-olds.

"In the past, we have seen many young single parents apply," said Woodcock. "As well as people employed in part-time jobs, who have a passion for interacting with people and are comfortable working as part of the health care team."

If the minimal registration numbers are met, the 38-week PSW program being offered in Minden by Loyalist College will start March 29 and run through to Dec. 16, 2016. Three information sessions for the program will be held on Jan. 20, 2016.

There is no need to pre-register for the sessions, which will be held at the r.e.c. room at 50 York St. in Haliburton from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and at Hyland Crest auditorium between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Further information about the information sessions, the PSW program or for help registering or applying for financial aid, is available through Contact North. Contact Sarah at haliburton@contactnorth.ca or at 1-855-867-9528.

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# Highlander life

## Talking about violence against women

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

When people encounter Haliburton resident Janis Cox this month, she'll ask them to notice what she's wearing.

"As I approach people on our walks and we start to chat, I will say, 'Ask me why I am wearing a dress,' or 'Do you want to know why I am wearing a dress every day?'" she told *The Highlander*. "That always opens up the door to conversation."

Conversation is what Cox hopes to spur this month when she wears a dress every day to raise awareness of human trafficking, abusive relationships and the plight of those trapped in slavery in Cambodia.

"Human trafficking is a worldwide problem," said Cox. "It is not pretty. It hurts. Just recently *The Toronto Star* published a large article on the problem of human trafficking in metro Toronto. It's rampant. It's undercover. It's ugly."

Cox was inspired by Dressement, a movement which also advocates for the dignity and freedom of women around the world but supports different charities. Cox named her campaign, 'Can a dress change the world?,' and is raising awareness for Ratanak International, a Canadian Christian charity founded in 1991 which works to confront sexual exploitation and empower Cambodians.

"We need to be advocates for all those who are caught in abusive relationships," said Cox. "We need to understand the problem they have in 'getting away.' We need to stop

judging and start helping. Every day I wear a dress I am reminded to pray, to talk to others and to get the word out there."

Cox is matching all donations to Ratanak through her initiative up to \$500. She's also donating \$5 for every purchased copy of *Tadeo Turtle*, the children's picture book

she wrote. She plans to carry the initiative into the new year and said she would welcome others in Haliburton County to join her next December.

"We need to make this cause visual," she said. "We need to talk about it."

Talking about the awareness-raising campaign is what interested Minden resident Georgia Shank, who is also wearing a dress throughout December.

"I don't always wear it all day, depending on what I'm doing that day, but every day I make the effort," she said.

Shank said like Cox, she layers up to keep warm by wearing pants or leggings under the dress.

"The point is that we have the right to choose what we wear," she said. "The victims of human trafficking don't have a choice."

Shank is donating \$1 a day to Ratanak International for the month of December and has recruited friends to do the same. The women are proud of the number of people they've already reached with their efforts.

"Don't turn away because it is ugly," said Cox. "Don't say it doesn't affect you. It does. It affects our world and our children."

For more information about Ratanak International visit [Ratanak.org](http://Ratanak.org) or contact Janis at [canadresschangetheworld@gmail.com](mailto:canadresschangetheworld@gmail.com)



*We need to be advocates for all those who are caught in abusive relationships.*

**Janis Cox**

Haliburton resident



Photos submitted by Janis Cox

Haliburton County resident Janis Cox is wearing a dress every day in December to raise awareness for Ratanak International.

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# Highlander life



Photo submitted by Jess Jackson

Mike and daughter Jess Jackson had professional photos taken earlier this year.

## Jackson will be missed by many

**By Jennifer Hughey**  
Editor

Mike Jackson was always smiling. Anyone who knew him would agree.

His daughter, Jess Jackson, started her eulogy by saying he was a son, a companion, a best friend, a brother, a son-in-law, a brother-in-law, an uncle, a nephew, a cousin, a dear friend, a co-worker, Jess' dad, Mike, MJ, the King of Pop – or when he was really in trouble – Michael John.

Mike died on Dec. 9 after hitting a moose on his way to work at Ontario Hydro. He was stationed in Orillia and was traveling on Highway 118 westbound when it happened.

Jess, 32, was also traveling that Wednesday morning. She was scheduled to work in Bracebridge and came upon the accident.

"I volunteer with a local agency, Victim Services, and while waiting in line among many other cars I wanted to offer my support," Jess posted on Facebook the day her father died. She left her car to go the front of

the line to speak with one of the Haliburton Highlands OPP on scene.

"They were unable to open the highway due to the investigation they needed to conduct ... [so] I offered to inform the other bystanders they would need to turn around," she said.

Jess was shocked at how close she was to her dad without knowing, but feels he would have been proud of her ability to handle a difficult situation that day.

Michael John Jackson was born at the Haliburton hospital, Dec. 15, 1945 to Jean and J.O. Jackson. When he was very young, he lived above Earl Hewitt's Garage on the main street of Minden, next to the river and the Dominion Hotel.

Mike worked for Hydro as a lineman for 31 years before retiring. He operated a local arborist business called BJ Tree Services, with partner and Hydro co-worker, Jim Burke.

Jess told those at the funeral – which took place at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home on Mike's 70th birthday – the word retirement was not in her dad's vocabulary.

"He quickly began working again as a journeyman in New Jersey and Detroit, driving the groomer for our local snowmobile club and decided to buy Mr. D's Donuts," Jess recounted, about one of her dad's businesses, a well-attended coffee shop in the Heritage Plaza in Minden.

"Many of us, including him, thought he was crazy for taking that on, but after selling the restaurant he knew Hydro was the life for him again," Jess said about Mike's return to Hydro, working seasonally as a data collector in multiple areas.

"To see the flags flying at half-mast at our local Hydro station, where my dad began his career in 1966, is such an honour," Jess posted online. "He lived and breathed Hydro, it was his life and not many people can say that they worked in one place for 50 years."

After counting the names of those who paid their respects for the wake and funeral, Jess said there were more than 800 people. Many also commented online in the funeral book of memories.

Former reeve of Minden Hills Jim McMahon and his wife Laura wrote Mike will be remembered in the hearts of everyone who knew him.

"He was such a kind, and supporting person. All the best to his family, as we know he will truly be missed. We will hold dear the memories of Mike in our hearts."

Jess knew her Dad was well-liked, but she never understood how many lives Mike had touched until the day of the funeral. Mike will be remembered by companion of the past four years, Wanda Reynolds, Jess' mother Bev Jackson and all of his family and friends.

Jess ended by saying she knew her father would always be with her.

"There won't be a day that passes for the rest of my life that I won't have him by my side in everything I do and I'm so thankful for that."

The family asked memorial donations to be made in Mike's name to the Minden Health Care Auxiliary or to another charity of choice.



# Highlander life

## Robotics club gearing up for competition

By Jennifer Hughey  
Editor

Aspiring young minds are not only designing and building robots, they are gaining valuable life skills in the process.

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) Robotics Club started three years ago and meet twice a week under the guidance and mentorship of Dan Gimon and Dan Fockler. Gimon is a maintenance engineer for the Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) who provides technical assistance for the club, while Fockler is the team's faculty facilitator. It was Fockler who had the idea to start the club, which is up to 17 members and continues to grow.

"It was several years ago that Dan Gimon and I talked about it in conversation," Fockler said. "I was contacted by Ian McTavish, who is a teacher in Huntsville at the high school. He helped us mentor the first competition and gave us parts we couldn't afford or didn't have access to."

They are already brainstorming ideas for the third annual FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) scheduled for March 2016. This past year, they entered with a team of eight to compete against 35 other high schools from all over Ontario in North Bay at Nipissing University.

"After our first competition we just packed up the robot and called it a season," said Gimon. "After the second competition, however, we took more of a 'club' approach and worked on learning and improving in the off season in order to stay fresh and get better."

Gimon said they started getting together much sooner this school year for the same reasons and feels like it has been beneficial.

Grade 12 student Cassandra Johannessen would agree. She has been in the club for the past three years and said it really helped her foster her skills sparked her interest in other engineering streams, such as computer engineering.

"This club has really broken stereotypes



Photo by Jennifer Hughey

Robotics club members pose with last year's robot.

within our school," Johannessen said. "When I was in Grade 10, I was looking at chemical engineering and some boys ... informed me that girls can't be engineers." On a whim, she decided to join the robotics club and said from year one, it has proven to be a welcoming environment where everyone felt comfortable with sharing their ideas and working together.

In order to cover the costs for the FRC, Johannessen and the club come up with ways to involve the community through donation.

"We go to conferences and meetings, we have done presentations," said Grade 12 student, Cody Williams, who is the team captain oversees the youth led club. "We did one for Haliburton Rotary and they are our main sponsor this year, supplying a large portion of our finances. We will be naming the robot after them."

The Rotarians donated \$2,500 towards the club's expenses, which will be put toward the entry fee and parts needed to build the robot.

"The entry fee is \$5,000 USD, so around \$6,500 CAD. That will give us some parts as well," Williams said. "We have to buy other parts that could cost up between \$1,000 and \$2,000, as well as transportation to and accommodation while in North Bay at the competition."

Williams estimated around \$10,000 would be required to cover everything but said TLDSB have also stepped up its contribution this year. The school board has contributed in the past but this year gave \$5,000 towards the fundraising goal.

Once the registration fee is paid, the club is given access to FIRST Robotics programs to use in the creation of the robotics.

"For me it's really cool, because I take a

lot of sciences and maths," said Williams. "I want to go into engineering but nothing is really practical, it's all theory." Williams works a lot on the mechanical parts of the robot and feels he gains valuable experience through the club and the competition.

"I am really interested in neuroscience," Johannessen said. "To apply to that field, you need to be able to learn how to program and apply it with tech. I thought this would be a good base for that, and it really was."

Students are selling Little Caesars pizza kits to help raise funds but also look to the community to sponsor their participation in the competition.

"The community has been great! We solicit sponsorships and donations from local businesses and they're coming through," Gimon said. "I think that the community feels that this is a beneficial program for the kids."



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# Highland Storm



Photo by Sue Tiffin

Game of the Week – See page 29

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# Highland Storm



Photo by Alex Coop

## Learning how to hit

Executive member of the Highland Storm, Richard Smith, absorbs a body check during a hitting clinic on Dec. 10.

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## Bancroft Jets reports

### Midget B girls hang on for the tie

Submitted by Dan Marsden

The Bancroft I.D.A / Canadian Tire Midget B Girls Jets travelled to Brighton Dec. 19 to take on the Cold Creek Comets. The Jets were looking to build on their Peterborough tournament win against the Comets – as they had yet to defeat Cold Creek in league play.

The Jets had a great start and surprised the Comets early in the first period with two quick tallies, taking a 2-0 lead. Marissa Phillips opened the scoring three minutes into the game with a quick wrister from the slot, capitalizing on a Cold Creek defensive zone turnover. The 2-0 lead came a minute later with Sidney Feir's high glove-side snap shot off Katie Funk's rebound. The quick Jets lead seemed to wake up the Comets and with minutes left in the first period, they got on the scoreboard with a quick snapshot which handcuffed the Jets' tender. Both teams failed to put away prime scoring chances in a scoreless second period in the tightly contested battle.

Cold Creek ramped up their pressure on the Jets in the third period and continued to press Bancroft the remainder of the game. The Comets' effort resulted in a 2-2 power play goal late in the third period after the Jets failed to clear the puck from their defensive end. The Jets hung on for the tie heading into

the Holiday break. Great first half! The team is first place in the East loop with a 12-2-2 record. Get ready for the second half in the New Year and for playoffs, which will happen soon with only six regular season games left.

The Jets' next game will not be until the New Year, when they will host the same Cold Creek Comets back in Bancroft Jan. 3 at 2 p.m.

### Peewee girls end year with a shut out

Submitted by Cindy Nesbitt

The Leveque Brothers/Rock Breakers Peewee Girls were on the ice at the A.J. Larue Arena Dec. 19 to face the Peterborough Ice Kats after a two week break.

Both teams came out fierce and wanting to control the puck. With determination, the Jets gained control and applied steady pressure throughout the game. Offensive and defensive plays proved to be effective well into the third period, but the girls were unable to get the puck past the Peterborough goalie. Excellent goaltending from Courtney Semach kept the score board empty, earning her another career shutout.

The Jets will be back on the ice in the New Year with a fully packed schedule. We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and look forward to seeing everyone back at the rink in 2016.



# Highland Storm

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## TheHighlander

### 3-Stars of the Week

1



Stats

G	A	GP
0	3	3

#### Logan Tripp

##### ATOM

It was a busy week of hockey for the Highland Storm Atoms, playing Tuesday in Haliburton, Thursday in Humphrey and Saturday back in Haliburton. Logan factored in on the score in all three games, looking like a true play-maker, earning three assists.

2



Stats

G	A	GP
2	0	3

#### Gage Hutchison

##### ATOM

It was apparent over the three games that the Highland Storm Atom's played that Gage was in the zone, as he had multiple scoring opportunities in the Storm's first game of the week against the Huntsville Otters. His fortunes would eventually improve as he was able to add a tally in Thursday's contest against the Parry Sound Shamrocks and then again Saturday when the storm hosted the South Muskoka Bears.

3



Stats

G	A	GP
1	1	3

#### Nathan Harrison

##### ATOM

Nathan has been able to maintain his consistent play all season, providing the Atom's with multiple scoring chances and points at critical times throughout the season. That held true last week, as Nathan not only got on the score sheet with a goal of his own, but also with a helper Thursday night, on the game-tying goal scored by Graeme Armstrong.

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 Initiation 2: 6:30pm - 7:30pm

### Thurs. Jan. 7 in Minden

Juniors: 7pm - 8pm  
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### Fri. Jan. 8 in Minden

Seniors: 8pm

### Sat. Jan. 9 in Haliburton

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# Highland Storm



Photo by Sue Tiffin

## Game of the Week

The Highland Storm novice team fought hard against the South Muskoka Bears at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton Dec. 19, but the Bears took the game with a 6-1 win.



Photo submitted

## Caroling, Storm style

Coach Andy MacMillan and the PeeWee AE team went out caroling Dec. 14 in Minden to raise money for Meals on Wheels, collect toys for the Toy Drive and food for the Minden Community Food Centre.

## Busy week for Atoms

Submitted by Amanda Tripp

The Emmerson Lumber Atom team had a busy week of hockey playing. They played Dec. 15 in Haliburton, Dec. 17 in Humphrey and Dec. 19 back in Haliburton.

On Dec. 15, the Storm hosted the Hunstville Otters and although the Storm battled hard with Kyan Hall scoring assisted by Logan Tripp and Walker Nesbitt, the Otters came away with a 7-1 win.

On Dec. 17, the Storm travelled to Humphrey to play against the Parry Sound Shamrocks. The Storm came away with a 2-2 tie. Gage Hutchinson and Graeme Armstrong both scored goals assisted by Nathan Harrison and Logan.

The Storm were at home Dec. 19 against the South Muskoka Bears. Nathan Harrison opened the scoring for the Storm assisted by Mak Prentice and Cody Keller.

Gage scored the second goal assisted by Cheyenne Degeer and Logan. The Bears scored a late third period goal winning the game 3-2.

## Midget As lose two

By Dave and Katie Howe

The Dollo's Foodland and Smolen's Dentistry Highland Storm Midget A team hosted the South Muskoka Bears Dec. 18 and again Dec. 19 in Minden.

In the first tilt the wide-awake Bears took the early lead against the sleeping Storm and quickly garnered a 2-0 lead in the first. In the second, the Storm gained intensity and cut the lead in half early with Jaydon Wood pocketing the first of his two goals for the period, but as penalties took over the contest the Bears and Highlanders traded power play goals to finish the period with the visitors in front 3-2. The third again found both sides

taking numerous penalties. With the home side virtually playing the whole period one man short, they were unable to muster any offence, allowed one more goal. The game ended 4-2.

The afternoon of Dec. 19 was a fresh start for the home side against their previous night rivals and the game opened with fast pace, end-to-end rushes, and Jaden Wood knocking in the first tally as time was winding down in the first segment. That provoked the grizzly Bears, 10 seconds into the second period, scoring the tying marker. The wild pace continued into the second until the penalty monster again reared its ugly head for the Storm and South Muskoka netted two on the power play to take a 3-1 lead into the third.

Early in the third, Jon Morrison scored on a feed from Nolan Flood to bring the home side within one but again the Bears guarding the perimeter proved too much for the Storm as South Muskoka scored

once more and the game ended, as in the first night, a 4-2 loss.

The Midgets play the next three games on the road. They return home Jan. 5 for a rare Tuesday night game in Minden at 8 p.m.

## Novice fall to Bears

Submitted by Amber Card

The Timber Mart Highland Storm Novice hosted a doubleheader against the South Muskoka Bears at A.J LaRue Arena Dec. 19. The Highland Storm battled hard but it wasn't enough against the Bears. The Bears won both games.

On Jan. 2, 2016 the Timber Mart Highland Storm Novice are hosting the Muskoka Rock at A.J LaRue Arena for a doubleheader. The first game is at 11 a.m. and the second is at 2 p.m.

## Haliburton Wolves



January 3, 2016

7:30PM in Bobcaygeon vs. Bobcaygeon Storm

January 9, 2016

7:00PM in Bracebridge vs. Bracebridge Blues

January 7, 2016

7:30PM in Haliburton vs. South Muskoka Shield

January 10, 2016

7:30PM in Haliburton vs. Coldwater Falcons

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Glenn Hall  
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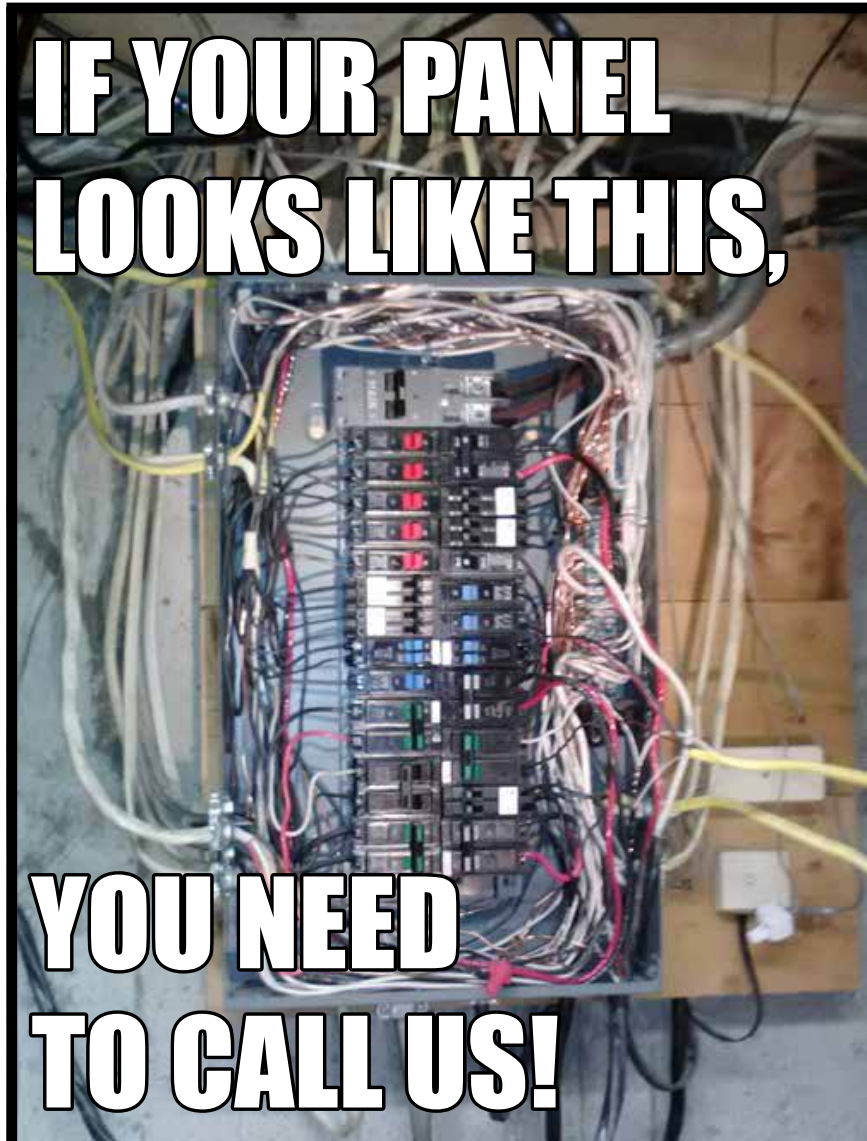
# Highlander sports



Photo by Alex Coop

## A tough loss

The undefeated St. Peter's Catholic Secondary School Saints hockey team clears the puck from their zone during a game against the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Red Hawks Dec. 17. HHSS fell 7-1.



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# Highlander sports

## Red Hawks reports

Submitted by Judi Paul  
**December 14**

Congratulations to the junior boys' basketball team on an excellent effort in the Bracebridge tourney. The boys capped off two solid games with a huge win in the third game against West Ferris from North Bay.



win to put them at 4-0 for the season, good enough for first place.

**December 16**

The Red Hawks wrestling team wrapped up the pre-Christmas tournament schedule at a competition in Port Hope. Congratulations to Carmen Galea who went undefeated and left as the champ in her weight category.

**December 15**

The junior boys' basketball team played a solid game against the Fenelon Falls Falcons. Trailing by 10 at the half, the boys mounted a fierce comeback but just fell short. The final score was 36-30 Fenelon. Brandon Verstege and Sam Longo led the Red Hawk attack with 12 and 10 points respectively. Jonas Hill chipped in with six points.

The senior boys' basketball team came back from a 13-point fourth quarter deficit to defeat the Falcons 40-38, after Caleb Schmidt's game-winning jumper with three seconds left. The boys showed grit and determination to attain this comeback

# HHSS RED HAWKS

**December 17**

The junior boys' basketball team played some inspired ball against the LCVI Spartans. After a sluggish first half, the boys found their stride in the third quarter, led by some stellar passing and shooting by Sam Longo and Brandon Verstege.

Heading into the fourth quarter and down 10, the boys continued their charge but fell short, losing 49-42. Sam finished the game with 17 points and six assists, Brandon had 13 points and four assists. Alex Petrie and Jonas Hill rounded out the scoring with seven and three points respectively.

## CURIOUS?



Masons at work  
in Minden since 1896.

Just call 705-489-1306 or  
email [barsue@sympatico.ca](mailto:barsue@sympatico.ca)



**COME ON OUT AND GET THE BIG KIDS OFF  
THE STREET AND INTO THE ALLEY**

The Fast Lane is not closed we are still open for business

Please call in first to reserve a lane prior to coming to the alley.

New for 2016 - Hotdogs for birthday parties and other functions.

We are a licensed establishment

**Bowlers Wanted: Monday Night's from 7pm-9pm  
& Monday, Thursday, Friday from 1pm-4pm.**

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# RIDGEWOOD FORD

12560 Hwy 35 N Minden 705-286-2890

## YEAR-END CLEARANCE



**2015 Fusion SE FWD**

2.0 L Eco Boost Engine, 6 spd auto transmission, luxury pkg, rear view camera, leather seats, heated steering wheel, heated seats, 18" alloy wheels, SE tec pkg, SAT radio, navigation, and much more

**\$26,326**  
+HST +Lic.

Receive  
addition  
\$1000 for  
COSTCO &  
\$750 HOLIDAY  
BONUS



**2015 F150 Super Cab XLT 4x4**

3.5 L V6 engine, 6-spd auto transmissions, alloy wheels, trailer tow pkg, power windows & locks, SAT radio, tilt & cruise and much more. Stk# 5344F1

**\$32,132**  
+HST +Lic.

Receive  
addition  
\$1000 for  
COSTCO &  
\$750 HOLIDAY  
BONUS



**Eligible COSTCO Members receive an extra \$1000 OFF**

Fusion, Escape & F150 - Must be a member prior to Oct 30th ends Jan4, 2016. \*see dealership for details\*



# Highlander classifieds

## SERVICES

**HIGHLAND APPLIANCES**  
Home Appliance Repairs. All Makes, All Models.  
**705-457-1048**  
13 Industrial Park Rd.

**NEW YEAR SALE** - \$5 off all private lessons  
LearnIT Computer Training & Admin Services 705-874-1480  
4980 Monck Rd. Use this ad to redeem discount.  
Valid December 28 through January 31 (Ja28)

**STAMP CARPET and DUCT CLEANING**  
IICRC Certified, carpet & upholstery cleaning, powerful truck mounted system, air care duct cleaning, emergency water extraction  
Call Rick **705-457-4715**

Winter Fitness Programs  
Just Movement Fitness  
ZUMBA, POUND, BOXING, STEP, STRENGTH, LITE FIT, ZUMBA GOLD, STRETCH and more.  
YOGA offered by 2 amazing instructors  
CHILDREN'S DANCE offered by 2 amazing instructors  
www.justmovementfitness.com  
Meghan Reid 705 455 7270 (JA14)

## SERVICES

**TATTOOS** - Highlands Studio & Ink Works (104 Bobcaygeon Road). Tattoos/touch-ups/cover-ups, right in downtown Minden Village. Gift certificates, photography & collectibles! Call Tom at 705-455-2617 for info.(tfn)

### J.P.G. DECKS

Installation, Cleaning, Staining. Plus doors, trim, int/ext painting. Quality & Reliability.  
705-447-9900  
Cell 705-455-2818  
jpgdecks@bell.net

**NEED A HELPING HAND?** Doug Olliffe home Handyman. Cottage and Home repair & maintenance. Fall yard cleanup, tile & flooring, bathroom renovations, opening and closing cottages. Snow removal roofs & driveways. 705-854-0325 dougolliffe@hotmail.ca (De24)

**STOUGHTONS QUALITY ROOFING**  
Lifetime STEEL roofing systems! IKO fibreglass architectural shingles. NEW eavestrough & gutter guard installation. We offer year-round roofing and are booking for the spring and summer. Free estimates. Call us today 705-457-0703. Terry.stoughton@hotmail.ca www.stoughtonsqualityroofing.ca (tfn)

## SERVICES

**FOOT CARE IN YOUR HOME.**  
RN with certification in advanced foot care. Diabetic foot care, toenail health, callous & corn reduction.  
Call Colette 705-854-0338

**COMPUTER PROBLEMS?** We fix Macs, PCs, smart phones. Virus removal. Computer sales; in-store, at your home or business. Remote service available. Call Solidstate at 705-457-3962. 62 Maple Avenue, Haliburton. (TFN)

**SIMPLY GOOD HOUSEKEEPING** – since 1999. Serving Minden, Haliburton, Bancroft areas. Year-round, seasonal, weekly, biweekly, monthly or as needed. Residential and cottages. Final clean upon moving. Cottage checks in off-season or as needed. 705-448-1178 dogpawlodge@gmail.com. (TFN)

### EDUCATION

Get a college/university certificate, diploma or degree. Graduate high school. Safe Food Handling, WHMIS, Smart Serve certification. Learn online at your own pace.  
**START TODAY!**  
Sarah Adams, Contact North | Contact Nord  
haliburton@contactnorth.ca  
1-855-867-9528

## SERVICES

**WINDOW CLEANING by Squeegee Clean 4U**  
Booking now!  
Expert window cleaning interior and exterior, ceiling fans.  
CHIMNEY SWEEPING by Mary Poppins. Free estimates, reasonable, reliable, fully insured. County wide service, call Rick at 705-455-2230

**COMPUTER sales & service.** Set up, file transfers, software installation, virus infections, networking, continuous backups, emergency service available. Call The Computer Guy - Dave Spaxman - at 705-286-0007. WE MAKE HOUSE CALLS! (TFN)

**PARALEGAL SERVICES** – small claims, \$25,000. L&T, traffic court, title searches. John Farr, B.A. (Hons.) LL.B – 40 years experience. 705-645-7638 or johnlakeview1@hotmail.com. (TFN)

## Classifieds

**\$8**  
for 25 words  
**705-457-2900**

## FOR RENT

**BACHELOR apt** for rent in Haliburton. Single occupancy only, no smokers, no pets. 705-457-9558. References required. \$600 incl (Jan7)

**COMMERCIAL OFFICE SPACE** on a bright main floor with 450 sqft, parking. Located at 240 Highland St. Unit C, Haliburton, (behind Vasey Insurance Brokers) Available immediately, \$700 month all inclusive (heat & hydro). Contact 705-457-2300 for more information (TFN)

## WANTED TO RENT

**WANTED TO RENT**  
Quiet professional needs affordable year-round house, duplex, or house-apartment. Haliburton to Eagle Lake area. Jan 1 or Feb 1. Experienced with wood heat. Call 249-993-0051 (De24)

## FOR SALE

**2014 FORD FIESTA**, only 4,000 km, one driver who has developed eye problems. \$12,000 firm. Call 705-286-2898 (De 24)

**LAVENDER Gifts** for Xmas, purely organic hand and body creams, creamy soaps, winter lip balms, linen/pillow sprays, essential bean pod candles, aches and pain arthritis rub. Bonnie's Lavender Farm, 10823 Hwy.118.705-754-1477. Calls invited.

## FOR SALE

**MEDICAL WIGS**, comfort caps and fashion hairpieces, custom fit in a private room. Care and maintenance of wigs also available at Head Inn Hairstyling, 62 Water Street, Minden Call for a free consultation with Janet 705-286-2585 (de24)



**PERSONALIZED CALENDARS:** Showcase your baby, children, family or pet on a 12 month, single page, 11 x 17 full colour calendar. Only \$10 each. Call Autumn Marketing "Make a Good Impression" 705-286-1317 or orders@autumn-marketing.com (TFN)

## HELP WANTED

**TRAINERS** with expertise in upcycling design, basic carpentry and/or finishing techniques. Contact info@sirch.on.ca (De24)

General Contractor seeking **SKILLED AND EXPERIENCED CARPENTERS** for custom-built cottages and renovations. Call 705-457-1224 (TFN)

## OBITUARIES



### Mary Hastings

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Sunday morning, December 20, 2015 in her 80th year. Beloved wife and best friend of Peter Epps. Loving mother of Elizabeth Perry, Robert (Tracey) both of Newfoundland and Sandra Perry of Burlington. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Logan, Katie and Heidi. Predeceased by her parents Campbell & Doris Hastings. Mary started "Hillhouse Gallery" in Haliburton and was an accomplished artist who was well respected in the Haliburton Highlands. Mary & Jim Stewart were instrumental in initiating the placement of art pieces within Haliburton Hospital for all to enjoy. She also was an active participant and life member of Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary and the Rails End Gallery. She will be sadly missed by her family and her many friends.

#### MEMORIAL SERVICE & RECEPTION

A Memorial Service and reception will be held at a later date. As expressions of sympathy donations to the Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705)457-9209.



www.communityfuneralhomes.com



### Ruth Bain

(Past Resident of West Guilford, Ontario)

Peacefully at Extendicare in Haliburton on Sunday December 6, 2015 with family by her side. Beloved wife of the Late Clarence Bain. Dear mother of Gerald (Dianne), Rick (Joyce), Wanda, and Patricia (Patrick). Dear mother-in-law of Pat Bain and Jim Reynolds. Dear grandmother to Marsha, Tricia, Craig, Jeff, Derek, Chad, Kelly, Curtis. Lee Ann (Predeceased), Angela and Colin. Great grandmother to many great grandchildren.

#### VISITATION, FUNERAL SERVICE & RECEPTION

Friends were invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Friday December 11, 2015 from 12 noon until time of Funeral Service in the Chapel at 2 o'clock. Spring interment West Guilford Baptist Church Cemetery. Reception to follow at the West Guilford Community Centre. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the West Guilford Baptist Church or Extendicare - Proud Pioneers would be appreciated by the family.



# Highlander classifieds

### HELP WANTED

Journey Through Grief Program Coordinator - The successful candidate will: coordinate/grow the bereavement program at SIRCH oversee/support volunteer facilitators, assess the needs of clients who are grieving, provide grief support resources to the community. Starting at 1.5 days per week (hopefully) growing. For a job description, or to email your resume: [info@sirch.on.ca](mailto:info@sirch.on.ca).

Exterior finishing company PETRINI CONSTRUCTION is looking for reliable installers. Must be willing to work without supervision, be self motivated, pay good attention to detail and provide own transportation. Please contact 705-457-2754.(TFN)

### HELP WANTED

DRIVERS needed for Hyland Taxi. G License for taxi is required. B,C or F License for 11 passenger van and bus. Call 705-457-9898 (tfn)

### EVENTS

FLEMING COLLEGE First Aid – Standard Tue–Wed, Feb 2&3 9:00am–4:30pm Bookkeeping for Small Business Wed, Feb 3–Apr 6 6:30pm–9:30pm Quick Books Pro Thu, Feb 4–Apr 7 6:30pm–9:30pm Call 705-457-1680 to Register (JA14)

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS Stroke Support Group meets the third Thursday of each month at the Fireside Lounge, Highland Crest, Minden 10:00am-noon. (TFN)

### EVENTS

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP open to anyone who has been diagnosed with or survived cancer. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Ruth Parkes Room at the Haliburton Hospital from 1:00–3:00pm. Please contact Lynn Higgs Thompson 705-457-2941 for more information.

### EVENTS

PARKINSON'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month. 1:30-3:30 pm. Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team education room. (TFN)

Alcoholics Anonymous - we care Meetings: Thursdays 12:00–1:00 pm, Sundays 10:30–11:30am. St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton. All welcome. 705-324-9900. (TFN)

### EVENTS

AL-ANON - we care, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Tuesday 7:00–8:00 pm, St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton. All welcome. (TFN)

VON SMART exercise program for balance, strength and flexibility. Minden on Tuesdays at 11:00am in the Hyland Crest auditorium and in Haliburton on Thursdays at 1:00pm at Echo Hills. For more info contact Judy Webb at 705-457-5098 or Carol Browne at 705-457-4551 (TFN)

## Classifieds

# \$8

for 25 words  
**705-457-2900**

### HELP WANTED



**Township of Algonquin Highlands**  
**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The Parks, Recreation and Trails Department has the following seasonal and permanent part-time positions available for 2016 and is seeking applications from qualified individuals.

Position	Location	Hour per Week	Term	Hourly Rate
(1) Winter Trail Tech	Frost Centre	24*	Jan. 8 to Mar. 20, 2016*	\$17.33
(2) Rec Centre Attendant	Dorset Recreation Centre	6	Permanent Part-time	\$17.33

**General Skills/Education Preferred:**

- Related education and work experience;
- Good physical fitness;
- Excellent customer service, communication and interpersonal skills;
- Record keeping, cash, point of sale, functional computer skills;
- Maintenance and cleaning experience;
- First Aid/CPR Level "C"/AED certification;
- Knowledge of Occupational Health and Safety and WHMIS;
- Provide own reliable transportation to and from work site;
- Must possess a valid class "G2" driver's license for the Province of Ontario;
- Trail Tech: chainsaw operator's certificate, knowledge & experience in cross country skiing, ski equipment & industry, troubleshooting & repair of snowmobiles, ATV's & small engines, backcountry navigation& comfort in remote areas, Wilderness Survival Certification.

**Reporting:** To Manager of Parks, Recreation and Trails and/or designated Supervisor

**Hours of Work:** Winter Trail Tech: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Sunday  
Rec Centre Attendant: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and possible call-in to cover - Includes weekdays, weekends and Holidays per each position schedule

**Remuneration:** As stated per position. Benefit entitlements are per the Employment Standards Act

**Detailed Job Descriptions:** For each respective position may be obtained from the Manager of Parks, Recreation and Trails

**Applications:** Persons are invited to inquire and apply in confidence. Please quote Position Title and submit your brief covering letter and resume **by 4:00 p.m. January 6, 2016** to:

**Chris Card, Manager**  
Parks, Recreation and Trails Department  
Township of Algonquin Highlands  
1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands, Ontario K0M 1J1  
Tele: 705-766-9033 E-mail: [ccard@algonquinhighlands.ca](mailto:ccard@algonquinhighlands.ca)

We appreciate the interest of all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.


### FUNERAL SERVICES



**Funerals and Memorial Services**

127 Bobcaygeon Rd  
Minden, ON 705-286-2181  
[www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com](http://www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com)

### NOTICE



**NOTICE**

**Naming of all Public/Private Roads and/or changing of Road Names in the Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton**


TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 48 of the Municipal Act 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, the Municipal Council, at their regular meeting, will be considering a by-law to name/rename all public and private roads, as required, to accommodate the addition/revision of road names within the County of Haliburton.

**Date: Monday, January 11, 2016**  
**Time: 9:00 a.m.**

For further information, please contact the municipal office:

**Municipality of Highlands East**  
Box 295, Wilberforce, Ontario K0L 3C0  
Irene Cook, Clerk  
(705) 448-2981 ex. 222

### HELP WANTED



**Township of Algonquin Highlands**  
**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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- First Aid/CPR Level "C"/AED certification;
- Knowledge of Occupational Health and Safety and WHMIS;
- Provide own reliable transportation to and from work site;
- Must possess a valid class "G2" driver's license for the Province of Ontario;
- Trail Tech: chainsaw operator's certificate, knowledge & experience in cross country skiing, ski equipment & industry, troubleshooting & repair of snowmobiles, ATV's & small engines, backcountry navigation& comfort in remote areas, Wilderness Survival Certification.

**Reporting:** To Manager of Parks, Recreation and Trails and/or designated Supervisor

**Hours of Work:** Winter Trail Tech: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Sunday  
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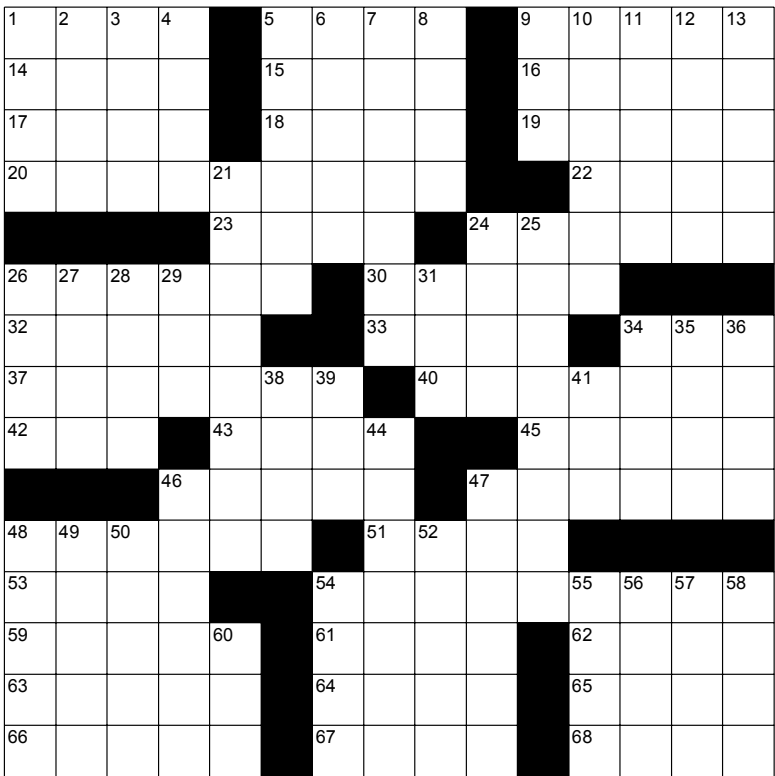
**Applications:** Persons are invited to inquire and apply in confidence. Please quote Position Title and submit your brief covering letter and resume **by 4:00 p.m. January 6, 2016** to:

**Chris Card, Manager**  
Parks, Recreation and Trails Department  
Township of Algonquin Highlands  
1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands, Ontario K0M 1J1  
Tele: 705-766-9033 E-mail: [ccard@algonquinhighlands.ca](mailto:ccard@algonquinhighlands.ca)

We appreciate the interest of all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



# Highlander events



- ACROSS**  
1. Wedge  
5. Track competition  
9. Unseals  
14. Give in  
15. \_\_\_\_ Fitzgerald  
16. Jeweler's measure  
17. \_\_\_\_ code  
18. Window ledge  
19. Unpaid toiler  
20. Not idealized  
22. Drifting  
23. Profound  
24. Narrate again  
26. Brawls  
30. Fry lightly  
32. Embellish  
33. Hero's tale  
34. Greek letter  
37. Sailboat race
- DOWN**  
1. Injury memento  
2. Not there  
3. Bright thought  
4. Brunch, e.g.  
5. Untidy conditions  
6. Upper crust  
7. Oval  
8. Body powder  
9. Approvals  
10. Roof of the mouth  
11. Clear the blackboard  
12. \_\_\_\_ orange  
13. Swipe  
21. \_\_\_\_ crisis  
24. Spoil  
25. And so on (2 wds.)  
26. Mother horse  
27. Eve's garden  
28. Pilot's diaries  
29. Memorable period
- 40. Foes**  
**42. Naval rank (abbr.)**  
**43. Minnesota's neighbor**  
**45. Owner's proof**  
**46. Direct**  
**47. Retitle**  
**48. School compositions**  
**51. Skyrocket**  
**53. What a pity!**  
**54. Peach variety**  
**59. Wake up**  
**61. Feed the kitty**  
**62. Aroma**  
**63. Hermit**  
**64. Wharf**  
**65. Plus**  
**66. Digging tool**  
**67. Drama divisions**  
**68. Low grades**
- 31. Chimpanzee, e.g.**  
**34. Pocket bread**  
**35. Shipboard spot**  
**36. Psychic's phrase (2 wds.)**  
**38. Baby's "piggies"**  
**39. Stun**  
**41. 60 secs.**  
**44. Poisonous element**  
**46. Talked back**  
**47. Evaluators**  
**48. English noblemen**  
**49. Sailboat**  
**50. Steam bath**  
**52. Eight musicians**  
**54. Wine-producing valley**  
**55. Highway**  
**56. Doing nothing**  
**57. Snout**  
**58. Greek mythology figure**  
**60. Before, in poems**

### DECEMBER 2015 & JANUARY 2016 EVENTS

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>Haliburton United Church</b> – 7:00pm – Christmas Eve Service and Communion Celebration  <b>Anglican Parishes Christmas Eve Services</b> - St. Peters Maple Lake 2:00pm - St. James Kinmount 4:00pm - St. Paul's Minden 7:00pm  <b>Dorset Rec Centre</b> closed from Dec 24 Opening Jan 2, 2016	 <b>Community Christmas Dinner</b> – Lloyd Watson Centre – 2:00pm – 6:00pm – free Christmas Dinner, Everyone Welcome!	<b>BOXING DAY!</b>  Visit <a href="http://thehighlander.ca">thehighlander.ca</a> for more events and activities in the Haliburton Highlands	<b>Free Public Skating</b> – Keith Tallman Arena – 12:30pm – 2:00pm <b>Public Skating</b> – A.J. LaRue Arena – 11:00am – 12:30pm
24	25	26	27
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<b>Public Skating</b> – A.J. LaRue Arena – 11:00am – 12:30pm	<b>Bid Euchre</b> – Cardiff Community Centre – 7:00pm – 9:00pm  <b>Public Skating</b> – A.J. LaRue Arena – 11:00am – 12:30pm  <b>Indoor Walking</b> – A.J. LaRue Arena – 1:00pm – 2:00pm	<b>Free Public Skating</b> – Keith Tallman Arena – 1:00pm – 3:00pm  <b>Public Skating</b> – A.J. LaRue Arena – 11:00am – 12:30pm	<b>Wilberforce Legion</b> – New Years Eve Celebrations <b>Public Skating</b> – A.J. LaRue Arena – 11:00am – 12:30pm
28	29	30	31

### WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR LEGION DEC. 17 - DEC 24, 2015

<b>Haliburton Branch</b> General meeting, 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Ladies Auxiliary, last Thursday, 1 p.m. Meat draw, Fridays, 4:30-6:30 p.m. \$2/draw, five draws/five prizes, Chester Howse, MC Cribbage, Friday, 1 p.m. Friday fun darts, 4:30 p.m. 50/50 draw, Saturday, 4 p.m. Breakfast, 2nd and 4th Sunday, 9:30-1 p.m., \$6/ person. Occasional volunteers needed. Bridge, Monday 1 p.m. Dart Night League, Tuesday, 7 p.m. Bid Euchre, Wednesday, 1 p.m. Bingo, Wednesday, doors 6 p.m., \$500 jackpot, \$1,000 jackpot last Wednesday of the month Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129!	<b>Minden Branch</b> Minden Legion would like to issue a retraction of the notice that Wednesday afternoon Ladies' darts was cancelled for December and January. There has been no cancellation of this activity. Ladies Darts, Wednesday, 1-4 p.m. Euchre, Thursday, 7 p.m. Fish/Wings & Chips, Friday, 12-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. Mixed darts, Friday 7:30 p.m. Big Euchre, first Sunday of the month (except holidays), noon, \$12 Sports Fan Day, Sunday, 12-5p.m. Lunch menu, Monday – Friday, 12-2 p.m. Liver lover's special, Tuesday 12-2 p.m. (full menu also) Meat Draws, Wednesday lunch time. Thursday take-out meals, pick-up after 6 p.m. Call between 2-6 p.m. for menu and to place your order. Dec. 19, Highlands Trio, 4-7 p.m., Food available. Monthly raffle, \$75 gift certificate at Easton's Valu-mart to be drawn Dec. 23.	Friday, Jan. 1, 2016 - President's Levee, 2 p.m., Honours and Awards, 3 p.m.  <b>Wilberforce Branch</b> From Dec. 24 – Dec. 30 Early close, 5 p.m., Thursday Closed, Friday – Merry Christmas Closed, Saturday No bid euchre, Monday No fun darts, Wednesday New Year's Eve Party, Thursday, Dec. 31, 9 p.m. to close – Tickets \$20 each, available at the bar. President's Levee – Friday, Jan. 1, 2016 – Open House – 1-5 p.m.
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### PUZZLES AND LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

B	A	L	S	A	A	M	M	O	A	L	O	E		
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# Highlander events

## ASES commended for food bank contributions

By Jennifer Hughey  
Editor

Children and parents were praised Dec. 18 at the Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) Christmas Concert for their generosity. Marilynne Lesperance and Joanne Barnes with the Minden Community Food Centre confirmed the school's donations contributed to the making of 173 baskets for those in need in the area. The food bank reached out to the school with specific items that Lesperance said they always run out of.

Both food bank representatives wanted the kids to know their donations meant a lot to the community.

"We welcome any of you who would like to, to come and see what we do first-hand," Barnes said. "Because you helped out, you made Christmas happen for a whole bunch of families."



Photos by Jennifer Hughey

Left: Molly Cooney and Sophie Graham of Ms. Kampstra's Grade 1 class sing Santa Claus is Coming to Town. Right: from left, McCartney Saunders, Owen Archer, and Brody Hartwig from Mrs. Howard's kindergarten class get ready for their big number.

### Christmas Season 2015

**Solemnity of Christmas**  
**Christmas Eve**  
Haliburton - Thursday, December 24th - 6:00 pm  
Bancroft - Thursday, December 24th - 7:30 pm  
**Christmas Day**  
Bancroft - Friday, December 25th - 9:00 am

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
Haliburton - Saturday, December 26th - 4:30 pm  
Bancroft - Sunday, December 27th - 9:00 am

**Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God**  
**New Year's Eve**  
Thursday, December 31st  
Haliburton - 4:30 pm  
Bancroft - 4:30 pm

**Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**  
Haliburton - Saturday, January 2nd - 4:30 pm  
Bancroft - Sunday, January 3rd - 9:00 am

**A Warm Welcome Awaits!**

St. Anthony of Padua Mission  
27 Victoria Street  
Haliburton

Our Lady of Mercy Church  
196 Bridge Street West  
Bancroft

**Christmas Eve Service**  
**6:00 pm**  
**13321 Hwy 118 North, Haliburton**

"In a world of terror and fear,  
God has given us a refuge of peace  
through the Gift of His Son."

**The Light of Christmas**  
*A Christmas Eve Celebration Like No Other*

Including candlelight carol sing  
Our favourite ceremony of the year

**Minden Bible Church**  
**177 Bobcaygeon Road Minden**  
**6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

The Light of Christmas is about celebrating the  
coming of the Light of the World



# Highlander events

## Pepper Mill serves up festive spirit

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

It's a tradition which started almost two decades ago when a dishwasher at the Pepper Mill Steak and Pasta House returned from Christmas holiday saying it hadn't been the greatest time for his family. Greg Turner, owner of the Minden-based restaurant, responded quickly. "He told him, 'You'll always have the opportunity to have a good Christmas as long as I'm around,'" said waitress Debbie McLean.

Since then, the Pepper Mill has opened its doors for an annual spirit dinner, in which families who need some extra help at Christmas can attend in celebration. This year the event took place Dec. 19. Staff and volunteers at the restaurant serve up a free turkey dinner and plates of treats. Santa gives presents donated by local churches and John Mendes plays music for two afternoon seatings. McLean said the event matters to participating families who look forward to the stress-free meal. "I could hear the kids get excited over the phone, screaming in the background," she said. "They said it's the best place in the world to see Santa."

Another family includes the event on their 'thankful board' at home. Almost 70 meals were served this year, a little less than what McLean said is typical. Usually the restaurant staff prepare plates for 120 people.



Photo by Sue Tiffin

From left, Paul Turner, Becky Montgomery and Blair Burch serve up turkey dinner with all the trimmings at The Pepper Mill Steak and Pasta House.

### RE-wrap



Wrapping paper can be **recycled**, with the exception of coloured foil wrap.

Bows, ribbons, bubble wrap & plastic packaging from toys are **NOT** recyclable & should be placed with household waste.



### e-waste

ALL our Landfill sites accept your used household batteries and unwanted e-waste for recycling **FREE** of charge.



Please see website or contact Municipal Office for more landfill information and updates. Recycling and transparent bags are mandatory. Landfill cards must be shown at the gate. Subject to change without notice.



### LANDFILL HOLIDAY HOURS

ALL Landfills will be **CLOSED** on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Regular winter hours are in effect for all other days.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

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### Wishing You a Warm & Cozy Christmas and a Happy New Year

May a pattern of peace, joy and prosperity repeat itself for you all year!

We're grateful to be part of such a close-knit community. The kindness and support of good friends and customers like you make doing business here a pleasure for us. Many thanks!



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CHRISTMAS  
*and*  
HAPPY NEW YEAR  
2016



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# Highlander events



Photos by Alex Coop

## A merry men's night

Left: Renzo Rosati gets his present wrapped next to the V&S store during the Men's Night Shopping Event in Haliburton Dec. 22. Right: From left, Sean Irvine and Mike McFadden weigh their purchase options during the Men's Night Shopping Event in Haliburton Dec. 22.



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& HAPPY NEW YEAR



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Peace*

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and yours a most wonderful holiday.*

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\*not intended to solicit clients already under contract



# Highlander events



Photo by Walt Griffin

## Love shack or dog house?

Susi Dennis of Sassy Digs serves up some macho snacks to Eagle Lake resident Michael Zapfe as he shops during the store's Men's Night event Dec. 22.

# CHAULK



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## Happy New Year

We're looking forward to another great year with good friends and customers like you! Thanks for helping us achieve new heights of success in 2015. We hope the year ahead brings all of your hopes and dreams to fruition.

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

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Agnew's General Store

THOSE OTHER  
MOVIES

MOVIE  
NIGHTS

THOSE OTHER  
MOVIES

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Drama - Bryan Cranston - Helen Mirren - Elle Fanning

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**Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup> 4:15 & 7:15**

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**YEARS**

2005 - 2015

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## Come in and check out our end of season deals

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Friday Dec 25 CLOSED

Saturday Dec 26 CLOSED

Sunday Dec 27 10 am - 4 pm

Monday Dec 28 9 am - 6 pm

Tuesday Dec 29 9 am - 6 pm

Wednesday Dec 30 9 am - 6 pm

Thursday Dec 31 9 am - 3 pm

Friday Jan 1 CLOSED

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Happy  
New Year



# What's on



File photo

One of the participants in last years Minden New Year's Eve celebrations.

## Many ways to count down the new year

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

Some people might want to ring in the new year sound asleep in bed, but for those ready and willing to end the year with a celebration, there's plenty to do around the county Dec. 31.

The township of Minden Hills is celebrating a Family Fun New Year's Eve with skating, horse-drawn wagon rides, tobogganing and hot chocolate. Kids of all ages are invited to the S.G. Nesbitt Arena in Minden from 6 - 8 p.m. The event and activities are free, but participants should bring their own skates and toboggans.

Once the kids have gone to bed, the adults can take part in the countdown at numerous parties happening on the last night of 2015.

The Bonnie View Inn at 2713 Kashagawigamog Lake Rd in Haliburton

is offering hors d'oeuvres, a buffet dinner, DJ dance and champagne toast at midnight. Tickets are \$40 per person or \$75 per couple, and groups of eight will receive a complimentary bottle of wine if they book in advance. The event runs from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. View more details at [bonnieviewinn.com](http://bonnieviewinn.com).

The Red Umbrella Inn at 1075 Red Umbrella Rd. in Minden is celebrating the new year with prime rib and lobster tail, complimentary champagne and a rock and roll show by The Rocken Bobs. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 9:30 p.m. There are separate ticket prices for dinner, the show and accommodation. Check [redumbrellainn.com](http://redumbrellainn.com) for more details. A \$5 shuttle is available for guests who would prefer not to drive.

Prime rib will be served at the Dominion Hotel at 113 Main Street in Minden, which is advertising a casual atmosphere

and a live band to get people moving on the dance floor. A champagne toast, noisemakers and a midnight buffet will help people get 2016 started on the right note. Tickets are \$65 and some overnight accommodation is available. Visit [dominionhotelpub.ca](http://dominionhotelpub.ca) for more information.

A New Year's Eve dinner buffet and gala awaits visitors to the Pinestone at 4252 County Rd. 21 in Haliburton, which is offering a \$59.95 buffet, late night snack, music by Toronto DJ Paul Ritter and New Year's Day breakfast for two. Visit [pinestone-resort.com](http://pinestone-resort.com) for more info.

Well-wishers are welcome at the West Guilford Community Centre at 1061 Kennisis Lake Rd to celebrate the engagement of Brooke Reid and Larry Reynolds. The semi-formal party includes a dinner buffet from 8-9:30 p.m., party favours and champagne at midnight. The Maclay Experience is performing

for those who want to take to the dance floor. A shuttle bus to Carnarvon, Minden, Haliburton and Lochlin costs \$5. Tickets are for sale at the West Guilford store or by contacting Paula Reid.

Sandy Lane Resort, located at 17592 Hwy. 35 in Algonquin Highlands is offering a "Winter Wonderland in the Country" package which includes the best fireworks display on Halls Lake and a huge bonfire, according to organizers. Rates start at \$59.60 per person, per night. More information about available packages is available at [sandylaneresort.com](http://sandylaneresort.com).

For those looking for quieter moments to end the Christmas season, the St. Anthony of Padua Mission at 27 Victoria St. in Haliburton will greet visitors to a Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God liturgical celebration on New Year's Eve at 4:30 p.m. Happy New Year, everyone!



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*Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season  
and a prosperous New Year  
from everyone at  
Team Haliburton Highlands.*

*- Troy, Jeff, Margie, Jess, Diane, Amanda and Braden*

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# Season's Greetings



From home to home, And heart to heart,  
From one place to another, Brings us closer to each other.  
The agents and staff of Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton,  
Wish everyone, a safe and happy holiday season!



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- Circular drive with ample parking
- Multiple storage sheds on property
- 100' frontage, lake surrounded by Crown land

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- Vacant 3 acre building lot, well treed for privacy
- 223' frontage on a municipal year-round road
- Close to public access to the 3 lake Maple Lake chain
- Only 15 minutes from Haliburton
- Great location to build your dream home or getaway.

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